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Historic Buildings of Nome: PAST | PRESENT | FUTURE

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Historic Buildings of Nome:

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Bureau of Indian Affairs
Alaska Region
Division of Environmental &
Cultural Resource Management

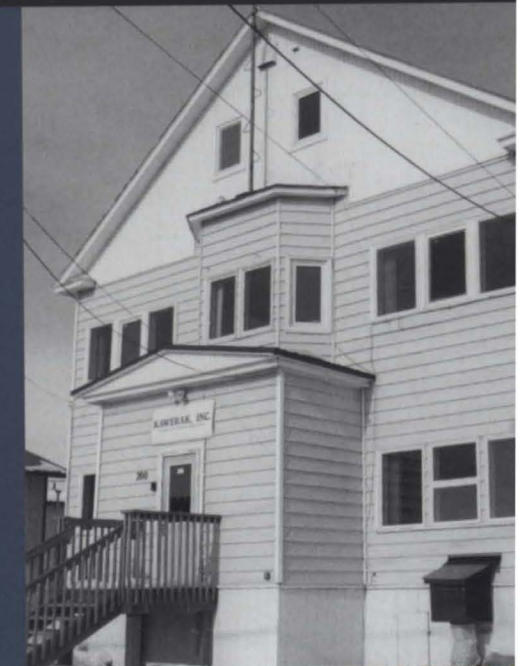


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Historic Buildings of Nome

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Cultural Resource Management



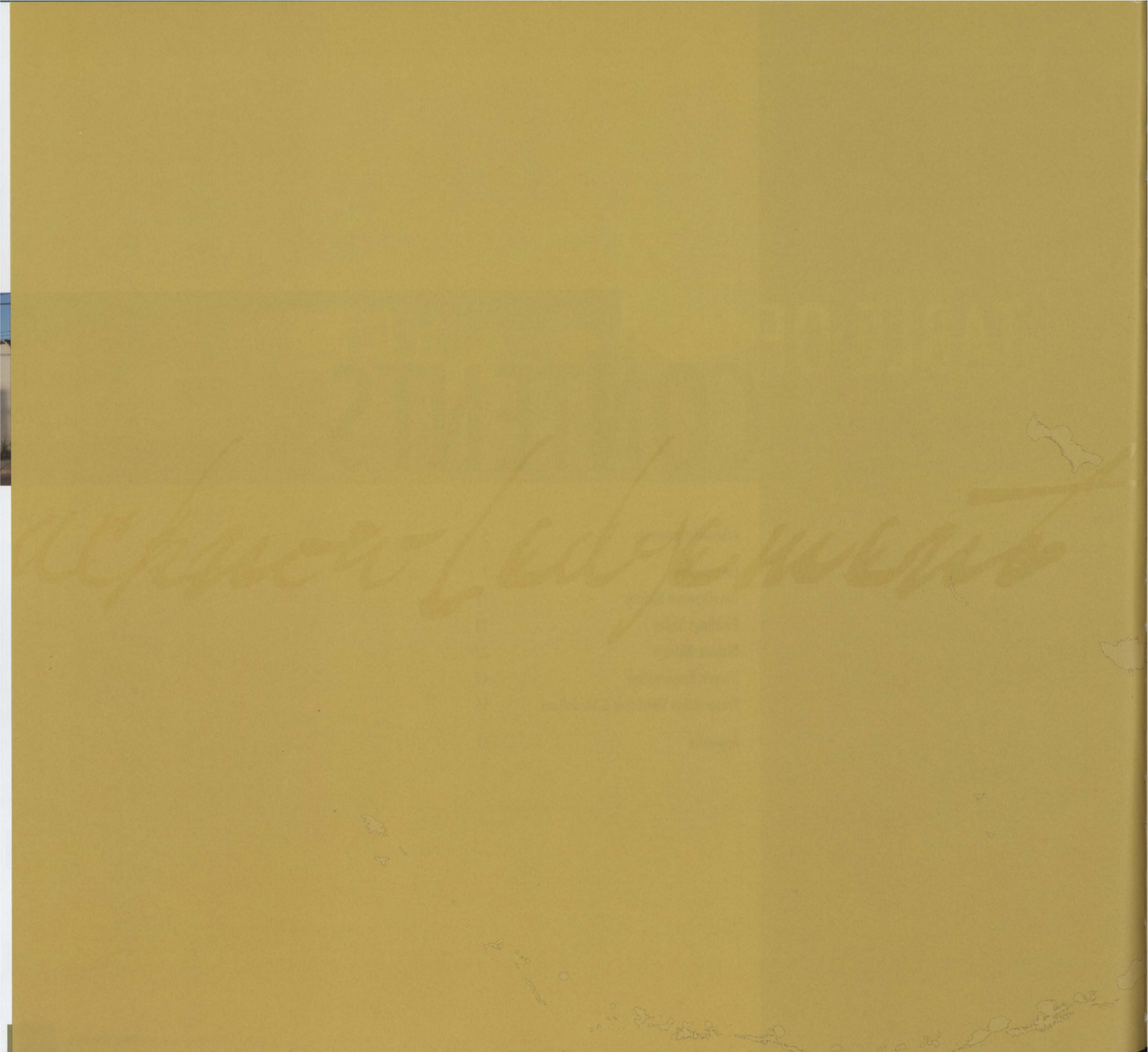
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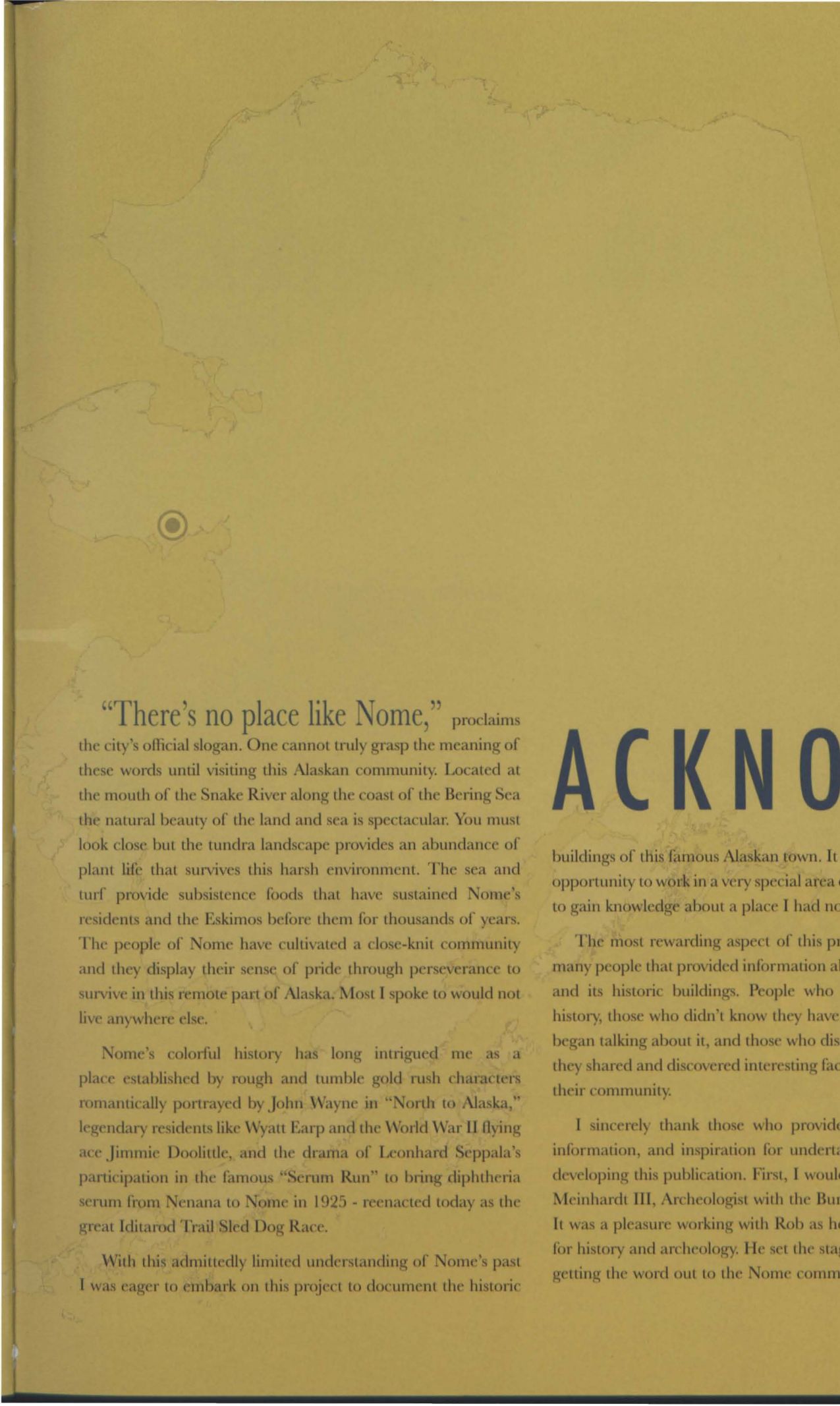
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This report was prepared for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Alaska Region, by the Alaska Region, Branch of Resource Management, under the direction of Robert M. Johnson, Project Coordinator. The report was prepared by Gary H. Gillette, Author.

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“There’s no place like Nome,” proclaims the city’s official slogan. One cannot truly grasp the meaning of these words until visiting this Alaskan community. Located at the mouth of the Snake River along the coast of the Bering Sea the natural beauty of the land and sea is spectacular. You must look close but the tundra landscape provides an abundance of plant life that survives this harsh environment. The sea and turf provide subsistence foods that have sustained Nome’s residents and the Eskimos before them for thousands of years. The people of Nome have cultivated a close-knit community and they display their sense of pride through perseverance to survive in this remote part of Alaska. Most I spoke to would not live anywhere else.

Nome’s colorful history has long intrigued me as a place established by rough and tumble gold rush characters romantically portrayed by John Wayne in “North to Alaska,” legendary residents like Wyatt Earp and the World War II flying ace Jimmie Doolittle, and the drama of Leonhard Seppala’s participation in the famous “Serum Run” to bring diphtheria serum from Nenana to Nome in 1925 - reenacted today as the great Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race.

With this admittedly limited understanding of Nome’s past I was eager to embark on this project to document the historic

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

buildings of this famous Alaskan town. It provided me a unique opportunity to work in a very special area of Alaska’s history and to gain knowledge about a place I had not previously explored.

The most rewarding aspect of this project was meeting the many people that provided information about Nome, its history, and its historic buildings. People who have the passion for history, those who didn’t know they have the passion until they began talking about it, and those who discovered the passion as they shared and discovered interesting facts about the history of their community.

I sincerely thank those who provided support, direction, information, and inspiration for undertaking this project and developing this publication. First, I would like to thank Robert Meinhardt III, Archeologist with the Bureau of Indian Affairs. It was a pleasure working with Rob as he clearly has a passion for history and archeology. He set the stage for my fieldwork by getting the word out to the Nome community and introducing

me to key resources for this project. Thanks also to Ricky Hoff, BIA Regional Archeologist, and Kristen K’eit, DECRM Director, for their support of this important project.

I want to thank Carol Gales and Jim Dory for the information they provided about the historic Discovery Saloon building and for taking the time to share their beautiful rehabilitation of Nome’s oldest remaining commercial building. The hard work they have performed over many years demonstrates their passion for preserving an important building of Nome’s past. Others too are working hard to save their piece of Nome’s history.

Thanks also to the many others who were extremely helpful in the development of this project. They include Doug Gasek, Architectural Historian with the Alaska Office of History and Archeology; Bruce Parham, Curator at National Archives – Pacific Alaska Region; Laura Samuelson, Curator of the Carrie M. McLain Memorial Museum; Beverly Gelzer, life long Nome resident and assistant at the Carrie M. McLain Memorial Museum; Sandy Babcock, Nome City Clerk; Camille Ten Eyck, Deputy City Clerk; Diana Haecker, reporter for the Nome Nugget; Bonnie Hahn, owner of Cape Nome Roadhouse; Bob Scott, life long Nome resident; John Walsh, former Nome resident, and Dave McDowell, Nome resident who shared his knowledge of Nome’s historic buildings. Also, thanks to Renee Hughes, Photographer (and my wife), for recording the current state of Nome’s historic buildings.

And, finally I want to thank the many Nome residents who, out of curiosity, inquired as to what Renee and I were up to as we walked through town looking at and photographing buildings. And especially to those who stopped to chat and offer tidbits of history about various buildings - like the women who informed us that the Walsh family had a cow in their yard for many years. And the gentleman who informed us his house formerly was an undertaker’s residence.

Nome’s history is important in the context of Alaskan exploration and development. It portrays the pioneer spirit that settled this great land and continues today as residents carry on their lives in a remote and spectacular environment. I truly hope this publication will provide valuable historical information as well as be a guide for preserving the many wonderful historic buildings of Nome.

-Gary H. Gillette, AIA



INTRODUCTION

future past present future past present future past present past pr

...and this is the first time that...

AREA MAP

Background

In 2006, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) proposed to dispose of real property consisting of Lot 3 and the northern third of Lot 6 of Block A, U.S. Survey 451 in Nome, Alaska. The disposal included the demolition of BIA Building 402 (NOM-00156) locally known as the Reindeer House or Reindeer Quarters.

The BIA Alaska Regional Archeologists were asked to make a Determination of Eligibility (DOE) for the building under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. Archeologists Bill Hedman and Robert Meinhardt III conducted the investigation and determined BIA Building 402 was eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places for its association with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of Nome's history. The Alaska State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) concurred with this finding. The SHPO and BIA began negotiating mitigation for adverse effects to BIA Building 402 caused by the pending demolition of the historic property.

In July 2006, BIA and SHPO signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) that identified mitigation activities to consist of performing an investigation of the nature and development of Nome's built environment. The MOA stipulated a study of Nome's buildings to document a representative sample of pre-1960 buildings in Nome, develop potential historic contexts, and address potential historic districts.

Study Area

The study area was established to coincide with what was approximately the original Nome townsite. The boundaries were identified as the area between West F Street and East K Street; and between 5th Avenue and the Norton Sound Coast.



th Avenue



Norton Sound Coast

SEA

STUDY AREA MAP

Boundaries of Study Area

Purpose

The purpose of the mitigation is to produce a publishable summary of the historic buildings present in Nome, Alaska. The publication is intended to provide property owners, property managers, researchers, and planners with information about the historic buildings in Nome and their significance. An additional goal of the publication is to provide historical and architectural background material that may be useful for nominations to the National Register of Historic Places.



Left: Gary Gillette, Historical Architect; Doug Gasek, Architectural Historian; and Robert Meinhardt III, Archeologist, at the Cape Nome Roadhouse. Photo by Bonnie Hahn, owner of the Cape Nome Roadhouse. Photo courtesy of Diana Haecker, reporter at the Nome Nugget

Methodology

In July 2007, BIA contracted with Gary H. Gillette, Architect to perform a study and prepare a report about historic buildings of Nome, Alaska. Gillette, assisted by Renee Hughes, Photographer, performed a field survey within the study boundaries. The area of the study generally reflects the historic townsite: between West F Street and East K Street; and between 5th Avenue and the Norton Sound Coast. Survey work included visual inspection, describing, and photographing the buildings within the study area.

Research included review of documents, maps, and photographs located in depositories of the Alaska State Library – Historical Collections; National Archives – Pacific Alaska Region; records of the City of Nome; Carrie M. McLain Memorial Museum; Alaska and Polar Regions Collections, Elmer E. Rasmuson Library, University of Alaska Fairbanks; University of Alaska Anchorage Consortium Library; and Anchorage Museum at Rasmuson Center, Library and Archives. In addition, a number of persons were interviewed about the history of the area and specifically about buildings within the study area.

A number of resources were used to determine the dates of construction of a sampling of buildings in the study area. Nearly 200 buildings appeared to have been constructed prior to 1960. Upon investigation it was found that conflicting construction dates were associated with some of the buildings. In many cases the City of Nome records indicated later dates than other resources. This is common for assessor records particularly when older buildings may have received major renovations or additions. In such cases, an educated estimate was made for selecting a construction date of a particular building. The method of establishment of building construction dates was adequate for the scope of this project.

Prior to beginning of field survey work BIA publicized the survey project through local media including television, radio, and newspaper. Rob Meinhardt, BIA Archeologist, contacted local agencies, interest groups, and individuals that might have an interest or information about the history and historic buildings of Nome.

On August 22, 2007 a public meeting was held in the Old St. Joseph's Church in Nome to introduce the project to interested members of the community. It also was an opportunity for citizens to ask questions about the project and relate their history and information about significant historic buildings in Nome.

Rob Meinhardt, BIA Archeologist, presented information about the Section 106 mitigation process and the resulting project to study historic buildings of Nome. He discussed the project's purpose, goals, and expectations.

Doug Gasek, Alaska State Architectural Historian, discussed various programs offered by state and federal agencies that might be available to owners of historic properties for assisting in preservation activities.

Gary Gillette, Historical Architect, described the work he

would perform to develop the study and report of the project. He outlined the steps in gathering information about the historic buildings of Nome that included research, oral histories, photography, and observations.

The meeting was well attended and generated useful information that assisted in the development of this publication. During the fieldwork, numerous interested citizens stopped to talk to Gary Gillette, Architect, and Renee Hughes, Photographer, about the project.





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DEVELOPMENT HISTORY

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Setting

Nome is located on the southwestern edge of the Seward Peninsula along the coast of Norton Sound of the Bering Sea. The Seward Peninsula features rolling hills and flat lowlands cut by meandering streams and containing thousands of lakes and bogs. The tundra landscape is a harsh environment lacking natural features that offer shelter from the elements.



The Early Inhabitants

Eskimos lived along the coast of the Bering Sea from time immemorial. Evidence of Native presence near present-day Nome is an Inupiaq Eskimo settlement site at Cape Nome, now a protected archaeological resource. The Eskimos had a summer subsistence camp at the mouth of the Snake River, which is now part of Nome. Some of the first structures in the area were made of walrus hides and driftwood.



Right: Eskimos with walrus hide tent structure at Nome, ca. 1900

The Gold Seekers

Prospectors arrived in the mid 1800s seeking gold in the streams and coastal beaches of the Seward Peninsula. The treeless landscape provided little in the way of materials for building shelters. Crude structures were built of driftwood, packed mud, and sod. In 1898 the first major gold discovery of the Seward Peninsula was made about 80 miles east of Nome at what later became Council City.

Later that year, "Three Lucky Swedes" (Jafet Lindeberg, Eric Lindblom, and John Brynteson) made a discovery of gold about three miles north of present day Nome at Anvil Creek. News of the discovery reached the gold fields of Canada and several thousand Klondikers found their way to the new mining camp of Anvil City raising the population to 10,000 by the winter of 1899.

Gold was found along the sandy beaches around the Snake River and others that fed into the Bering Sea in 1899. Once gold was discovered in the Nome area prospectors and suppliers arrived in droves. The spring of 1900 saw tens of thousands of pioneers arriving from the ports of Seattle, Portland, and San Francisco setting off the great Alaska Gold Rush. Almost overnight this isolated area was transformed into a tent city of prospectors, gamblers, claim jumpers, saloonkeepers, lawyers, and prostitutes.



Top: Front Street in Nome, ca. 1900. Far Left: Gold seekers arriving at Nome in 1908. Above: Miner's cabin built of driftwood and sod on Nome beach, ca. 1907. Left: Early housing development, ca. 1900

In short time, vessels arrived from southern ports with building materials and workers to craft a new community upland of the gold-laden beaches. The need for quickly erected buildings to serve the growing community meant there was no time to analyze the local climate and environmental conditions. The new residents brought with them the styles and forms of buildings they were accustomed to in their former communities. The lineup of buildings created narrow streets with wooden walkways.

The City of Nome was incorporated in 1901 and was the largest city in Alaska. Estimates reached as high as 20,000 inhabitants but the highest recorded population was 12,488 in the 1900 census.

Early photographs of Nome show bustling scenes with narrow streets, wooden walkways, and rows of buildings much

like those erected in early mining towns across the United States.

The only remaining commercial building of that early era is the Discovery Saloon. It is located on Lomen Avenue at the west end of town along with a number of residential buildings from that era.

Commercial businesses and government facilities were mainly located along Front Street (parallel to the beach) and Steadman Street (perpendicular to the beach). Most commercial buildings featured residential uses on the upper floors in the form of hotels, apartments, and rooms for prostitution.

Family residences were located inland from the bustling scene of Front Street. The demand for single-family homes was met by developers who often constructed homes of the same design in straight rows on adjacent lots.



Front Street, Nome, Alaska



The Reindeer Herders

Nome's reindeer industry began with Dr. Sheldon Jackson, a pioneer missionary and educator. His plan was to develop reindeer herding as a viable industry for the Natives. Jafet Lindeberg, one of the "Three Lucky Swedes" came to the Nome area as a reindeer herder.

By 1914, large numbers of reindeer were herded in Alaska. Backed in part by Lindeberg, Lomen and Company began developing a large-scale commercial enterprise based on reindeer. The peak reindeer years were from 1927 to 1930 when the Lomens and the Office of Indian Affairs (OIA), Reindeer Service, sold millions of pounds of reindeer meat throughout the United States.

After 1930 the industry crashed as political and advertising endeavors of powerful cattlemen and sheep ranchers were able to thwart the vision of a great reindeer industry. The Lomen herding operations ceased after 1937 when passage of the Reindeer Act phased out white ownership of reindeer herds. Though Native herding continues today, it is much less of a scale than originally envisioned.

Two buildings remain in Nome that housed offices and apartments for employees of the Reindeer Service. The Department of Justice (DOJ) constructed the building at the corner of First Avenue and Spokane Street in 1917 as a detention hospital for the criminally insane. By 1922, it was determined the detention facility was not used for its intended use and was transferred to the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Education (BOE). The building was remodeled to house BOE offices and residences for teachers and employees. The building became known as the Reindeer Building because it housed BOE's reindeer operations. The building was modified over the years and continues in use today.

The building at 105 East First Street was originally constructed in 1934 by the Alaska Road Commission (ARC). It housed offices for ARC and the Office of Indian Affairs (OIA) Reindeer Service. In 1939 it was transferred to the Reindeer Service and remodeled to provide housing for its employees and was locally known as Reindeer House or Reindeer Quarters. The building has been modified several times over its years of service. The building has been vacant since 1996 and is scheduled to be demolished.



Opposite page top: Early tent structures of Nome, ca 1899. Opposite page bottom: Front street Nome, ca. 1900.

Above: BIA Building 401 locally known as Reindeer Building, ca. 1920. Left: BIA Building 402 locally known as Reindeer House, ca. 1937.

The Great Fire

On September 17, 1934, Nome suffered a devastating blow. Alaska's worst fire occurred on that day as nearly the entire town went up in flames. Starting in the Golden Gate Hotel, the fire was fanned by high winds gusting to 35 miles per hour.

As fire engulfed the community, drastic measures were taken to stop it from destroying the entire city. On the west end of town, buildings were knocked down with dynamite to form firebreaks. As a result, there are few buildings that remain from Nome's earliest days. The fire of 1934 was not the only one in Nome's history; a fire in 1905 destroyed many buildings along Front Street.

Development patterns in Nome were changed as a result of the 1934 fire. As originally developed in the early 1900's, Front Street was narrow and lined with buildings sitting side by side. After the fire, the burnt out area was re-platted with a new wider Front Street. The wider street design was intended to offer some fire protection but also was influenced by the increased presence of automobiles by the 1930's. The narrow streets were not able to accommodate the increased traffic and parking needs.

The new widened street layout impacted the scale and feeling of the once pedestrian-oriented streetscape along Front Street. The photo below-right shows the new widened street in the area that was plagued with destructive fires in earlier days.



Above: Aftermath of the fire that destroyed much of the City of Nome in 1905. Top: Aftermath of the fire that destroyed much of the City of Nome in 1905. Right: Birds eye view of Nome in winter of 1946-1947.

Opposite Page Top Left: The Lincoln Hotel damaged by storm, 1945. Opposite Page Bottom Left: Snow and ice storm on Front Street, ca. 1915. Opposite Page Bottom Right: Damaged buildings from the storm of 1945.



The Storms

Fires were not the only threat to the buildings of Nome. Serious storms in 1902 and 1913 did considerable damage. Then there was a succession of major storms in 1937, 1942, 1945, and 1946.

The 1945 storm had winds gusting to 65 miles an hour. The accompanying wave action drove water and ice cakes onto the shore where the Lincoln Hotel was smashed in half and the rear section was washed out to sea.

A year later, in 1946, another tremendous storm hit Nome bringing 40 to 50 foot high waves smashing the shoreline and finishing the destruction of the Lincoln Hotel. Even though buildings on the sea side of Front Street were repeatedly damaged or destroyed by storms, owners re-built in this location because the ground was warmed by the sea thus not frozen as in most other locations around Nome. Front Street has always been the center of business and as such developers tended to build and re-build along the coast despite the destructive forces of storms and surf.

As each storm eroded the waterfront, many residents advocated moving the town inland. At a town meeting held in November 1946 a vote was taken. Forty-four residents supported moving while only nineteen opposed. However, the leading businessmen strongly opposed moving the town and began a crusade to build a protective wall of granite rock along the shore. Nearly two years later the federal government put up \$1 million to construct a 3,350-foot long rock wall, which was completed in 1951.

The wall was put to the test when the worst storm in over 60 years hit Nome in November 1974. Even with the wall there was an estimated \$30 million damage to buildings and facilities. Some speculate that without the wall the entire town would probably have been destroyed. Nome has re-built the damaged area since the 1974 storm but there is no guarantee that buildings will weather the next major storm. Nome residents seem to take the devastating setbacks in stride.





The World War II Build-Up

In 1940, rumors spread that the Russians were building an air and submarine base on Big Diomed Island just 150 miles northwest of Nome. The rumors proved untrue but they may have helped convince Congress to fund a military build-up in Alaska. Construction of an air base at Nome began in the summer of 1941. The military facilities were built on the spoils of gold dredging where the tailings provided firm foundations for buildings, roads, and landing strips. After the base was decommissioned in 1955 it became Nome's municipal airport. Many of the military buildings were made available for subsequent uses. Some of these buildings were moved to Nome for use as storage, workshops, and even residences. Sitting side-by-side, the buildings above and to the right were moved to Spokane Street in 1976 and rehabilitated as rental units.



The White Alice Communications System

Conceived in the 1950s to improve communications across Alaska the White Alice Communications System (WACS) was built by the U.S. Air Force beginning in 1955 and became operational in 1958. A series of giant antenna structures were built in several locations including Anvil Mountain outside Nome. The construction brought some economic benefits to the locale for a brief period, but the primary impact has been the "Stonehenge" like image visible from Nome across the treeless tundra landscape.



Top Series of Photographs: Housing units built ca. 1941 for Marks Air Force Base were moved to Spokane Street in Nome for rental units in 1976. Right: White Alice site on Anvil Mountain east of Nome.



National Building Styles

Building Style Categories

BUILDING STYLES

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The style of a building is its visual appearance, made up of the design elements that give it its public face. Building styles are designed and built to express a nation, community, culture, and other values that are important to a society or were popular in a particular period of time. They are generally designed and built to be functional, practical, and comfortable. However, they also reflect the values and beliefs of the people who built them. The style of a building is its visual appearance, made up of the design elements that give it its public face. Building styles are designed and built to express a nation, community, culture, and other values that are important to a society or were popular in a particular period of time. They are generally designed and built to be functional, practical, and comfortable. However, they also reflect the values and beliefs of the people who built them.

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Structure

The structure and construction of a building are its physical form and details that define its character. The structure of a building is its framework, which supports the roof and holds up the interior spaces. The structure is made up of various materials, including wood, steel, concrete, masonry, or brick. The structure of a building is its framework, which supports the roof and holds up the interior spaces. The structure is made up of various materials, including wood, steel, concrete, masonry, or brick.

Another element of a building's structure is the detailing that is added beyond the basic need for shelter. These details include things like roof lines, windows, doors, and decorative elements. The selection and placement of these details is what gives a building its style.

The National Building Style is the style that is most common in a nation. It is the style that is most common in a nation. It is the style that is most common in a nation. It is the style that is most common in a nation.



National Building Styles

Background

There are two basic sorts of buildings: folk and styled. Folk buildings are designed and built without a conscious attempt to evoke a particular fashion. They are primarily owner built or constructed by non-professional builders with simple materials and details meant to provide basic shelter. Styled buildings range from those that provide basic shelter but make at least some attempt to be fashionable to those that offer a more grand shelter with elaborate decoration in order to be fashion leaders. There are three general characteristics that define the architecture of buildings: style, form, and structure.

Style

The style of a building is its visual impression made to the viewer from the street – its public face. Styled buildings are designed and built to represent forms, materials, details, and other features that are currently popular or were popular in a particular period of time. They are generally designed and built by professional architects and contractors. However, non-professionals often copy established designs in an attempt to reflect a style currently in vogue.

Style choices may be found in the type and placement of windows; selection of roof forms; size and shape of eaves and overhangs; exposed or enclosed rafters; eave returns; pediments; and other details. These features are over and above the building's basic purpose to provide shelter

Form

The form of a building is generally described in terms of its plan and elevations. The plan is a two dimensional pattern that is made by the exterior walls at the ground when viewing a building from above. These forms may be square, rectangular, cross, "L" or any number of combinations of these basic shapes. The two dimensional elevation describes how the building appears looking at the walls and roof form as viewed straight on at eye level. These might be one, two, or three story walls with roof forms that are peaked, flat, arched, or other combinations and variations. Elevations also show the placement of windows, doors, chimneys, and other features of the building.

Structure

The materials and construction methods that make up the walls, roof, and details describe the structure of a building. Walls support the roof and screen the interior spaces. Walls may be constructed of various materials including wood, concrete, masonry, or steel. Roofs offer protection from the natural elements and are of various shapes such as gable, hip, flat, shed, arched, gambrel and combinations or variations. The structural composition of roofs includes rafter framing, post and beam, and truss configurations.

Another element of a building's structure is the detailing that is added beyond the basic need for shelter. These may be such things as porch roofs or enclosures, windows, doors, and decorative adornments. The selection and placement of these details is what gives a building its style.

Building Style Categories

Attempts are made to classify buildings by common styles, forms and structures. This can be a complex process as there are many variations of commonly designated style types. The National Park Service developed a generally accepted list of style classifications for the National Register of Historic Places. The list includes categories such as: Colonial, Early Republic, Mid-19th Century, Late Victorian, Late 19th Century and 20th Century Revivals, Late 19th Century and Early 20th American Movements, Modern Movement, Other, and Mixed. A subsequent category is No Style, which refers to buildings that make no conscious attempt to be fashionable, but rather are designed to offer basic shelter only.

The National Register building styles list was based on various references including *A Field Guide to American Houses*. For this publication, the National Register styles list was used for general classifications along with more specific descriptions contained in the field guide.

Building Styles of Nome

Background

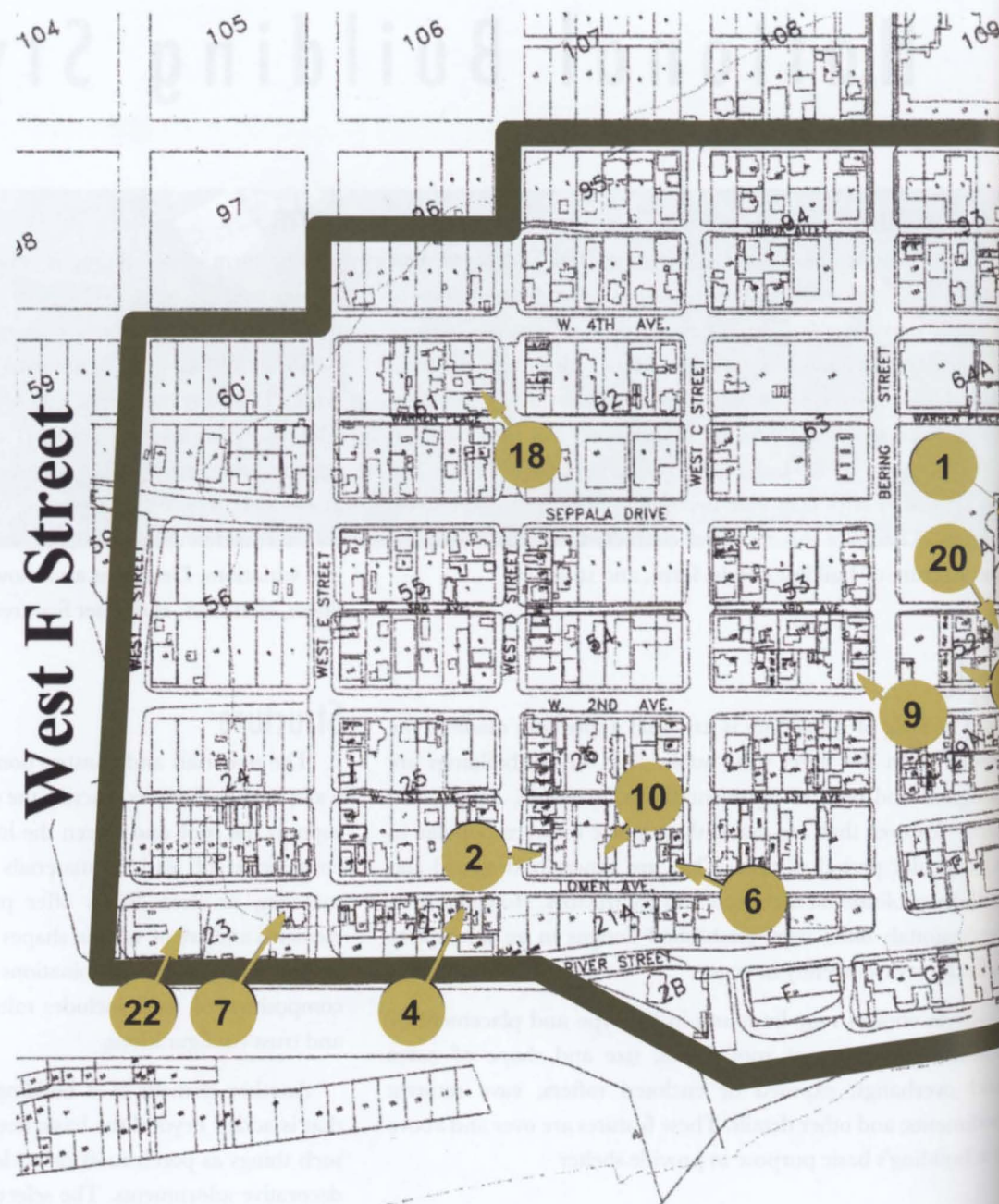
The earliest building forms in the Nome area were of the folk type. They were meant to offer basic shelter for users and were constructed of the materials at hand. Eskimos fashioned structures of walrus hides and driftwood poles. The earliest prospectors used driftwood, mud, and sod to construct their shelters. These structures reflect the local vernacular of architecture for the period based on local materials and forms purely derived from function of protection from the elements.

The wave of gold prospectors and support personnel created an immediate need for shelter. The first response was the use of canvas tent structures. As the population grew and established a more permanent community, the tents fell short of fulfilling the shelter needs and more substantial buildings were required. The lack of local materials suitable for constructing the needed buildings led to mass imports of materials from lower forty-eight coastal cities of Seattle, Portland, and San Francisco. Along with these materials were brought the styles of buildings the newcomers were accustomed to in their hometowns.

Buildings in Nome are generally modest interpretations of recognized national styles. They reflect the basic forms and massing seen in national examples but feature minor detail elements of a particular style. This was due to three primary factors: shipping of building materials was costly, skilled craftsmen willing to come north were few, and buildings were needed in a short time period due to the rapid growth during the gold rush era and in later years for rebuilding after a devastating fire or storm event.

Examples of building styles found in Nome include Late Gothic Revival, Queen Anne, Prairie, Bungalow, National Folk, and Modern Movement. There are a number of buildings that fit the No Style category. They may not feature stylized elements but provide shelter needs for residential and business needs. These also may be types of buildings that were mass-produced particularly for providing inexpensive ready-made shelter such as Quonsut Huts and "Butler" buildings.

This map indicates the location of buildings in Nome featured in the photographs of this section.



5th Avenue

East K Street

Norton Sound Coast

BERING SEA

BUILDING STYLES MAP

Boundaries of Study Area

22

Number of Photo in "Building Styles of Nome"

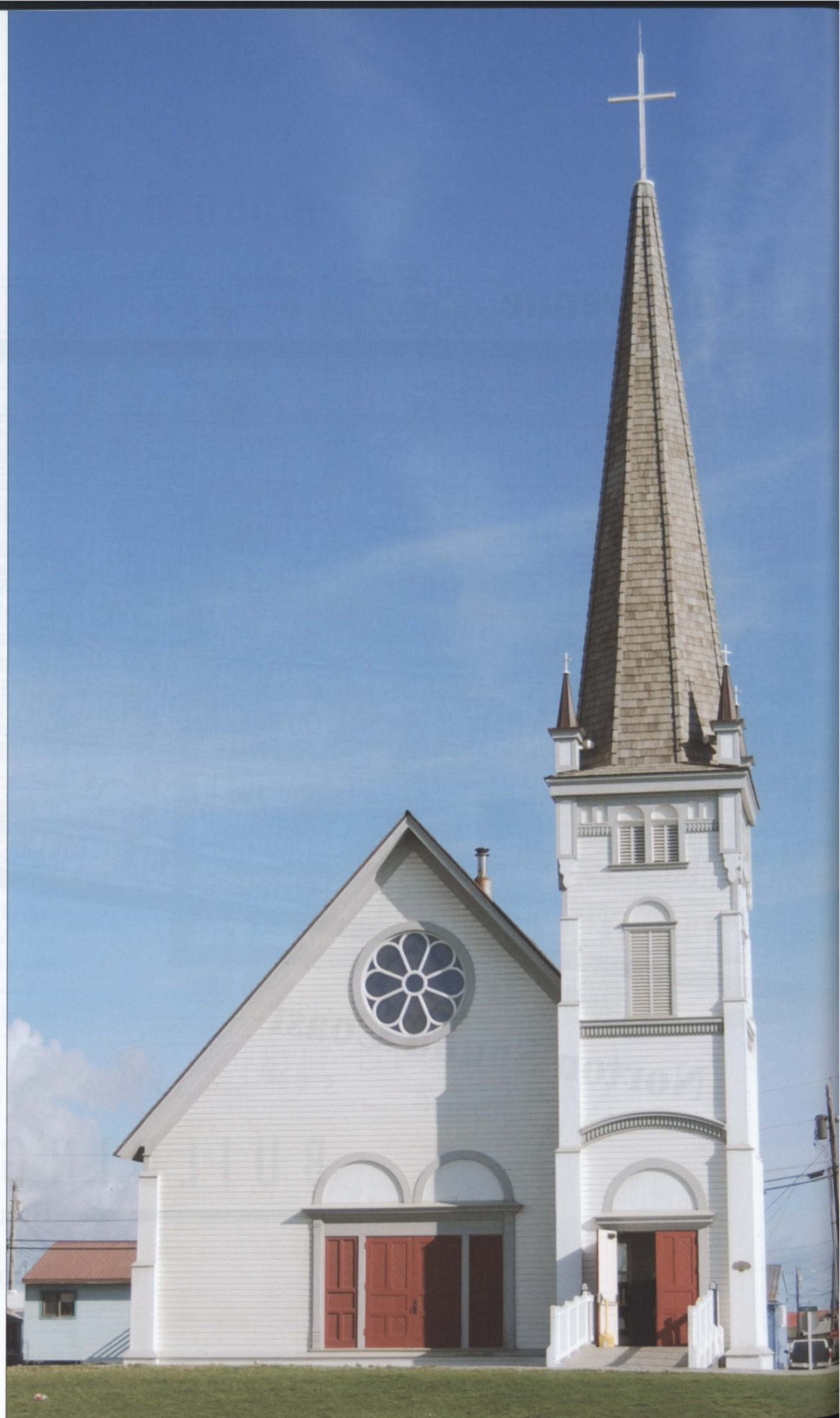


Late Gothic Revival

The Old St. Joseph's Church is arguably the most prominent historic building in Nome. Moved from its original location at Steadman Street and Third Avenue to the current site at Anvil Square along Bering Street, it was restored to its 1901 appearance in recent years. The building style is Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals - Late Gothic Revival sub-category.

Characteristics of the Gothic style featured on the church include a front gable steeply pitched roof, pyramidal roof form over steeple, asymmetrical plan where steeple element is to one side of front gable, rose window, turret elements at corners of the steeple, corbels, and pilasters at corners of the building and tower.

The church was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2000. It was determined eligible for listing because of its significant architecture. Additional significance was determined for the light that was located at the top of the steeple as it was an important navigational aid for the community.



Top Left: St. Joseph's Catholic Church, built in 1901, at its original site on the corner of Steadman Avenue and Third Street. Right: The restored church at its current site on Bering Avenue (1).



Left: The Discovery Saloon, built in 1901, is the oldest commercial building in Nome (2). Below: The Jacob Berger House, built in 1904, features Queen Anne style details (3).



Queen Anne

Another prominent historic building is the Discovery Saloon. Built in 1901 it is Nome's oldest surviving commercial building. It was converted to a residence in 1940 and has undergone modifications over time but retains integrity of its original architectural character. It is of Queen Anne style with features such as an arched cornice, dentils and brackets in the cornice detailing, bay windows, and a Palladian motif window

at the top of the front facade. The building form is a basic rectangle in plan with a gable roof behind a false front wall that was typical of early 20th century western frontier buildings. The Discovery Saloon was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1980.

The Jacob Berger House (also known as the Sally Carrighar House) was built in 1904. Queen Anne features include the

building's steep pitched pyramidal roof over the front tower element, circular windows, bay window, and shingled siding. Relatively few modifications have been made to the building over time. The house was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1977.

The Ira Orton House was built in 1904 and has a number of Queen Anne style details. The building has been modified over the years but retains many character-defining details which include a steeply pitched front gable roof and a pyramidal roof over the rear portion of the building. A hipped roof dormer is located on the upper hip roof portion.

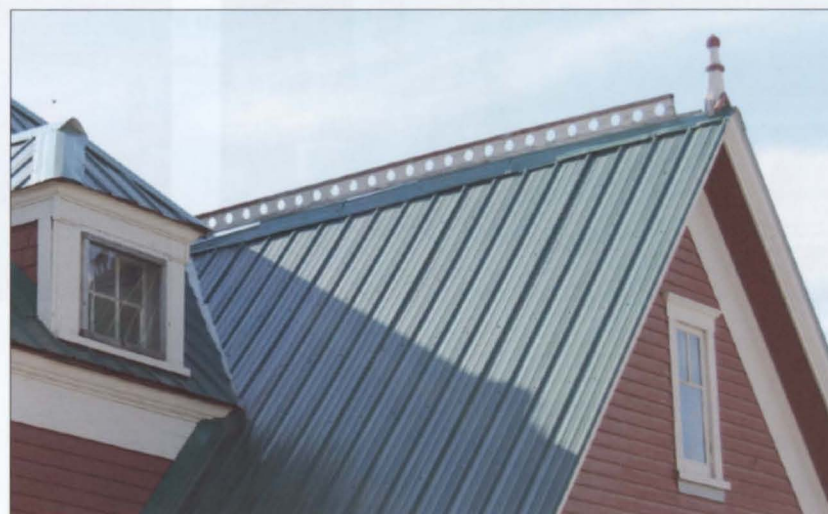
Simple cornice detailing is featured at the intersection of the roof eaves and walls. Decorative roof cresting occurs along the roof ridge line as shown in the bottom-left photo.

A number of other buildings in Nome feature elements of the Queen Anne style. The building in the photo at the bottom right features a pediment gable on the main roof form. In addition there is a pyramidal roof over a bay window appendage element.

The building on the left of the next page features Queen Anne style details. The angled appendage with windows is a variation of a bay window common to this style. The pediment gable over the bay window is also reflective of the Queen Anne style.

The building on the bottom right of the next page features a decorative pediment detail at the top of the gable, along with brackets below. These details are typical details of the Queen Anne style.

The building on the top right of the next page features eave returns at the main gable roof. In addition, there is a pediment roof element over the bay window appendage. These details are typical of Queen Anne style buildings.



Top: The Queen Anne style Ira Orton house, built in 1904 (4). Above: Hip roof dormer and roof cresting on the Ira Orton house. Right: Built ca. 1904, this building includes a pediment gable and pyramidal roof form over a bay window appendage (5).



Left: Queen Anne details such as pediment over bay window appendage (6). Top Right: Gable roof eave returns and pediment over bay window appendage are typical of the Queen Anne style (8). Above: Pediment gable and brackets of the Queen Anne Style (7).

Prairie

Buildings of the Prairie style are generally square or rectangular in plan with roof shapes that are hipped or side gabled. They typically include roof dormers and open or enclosed porches.

The W.H. Bard House, built in 1906, is reflective of the Prairie style featuring a square plan and hipped roof form. The building has an eyebrow dormer on the front and a shed dormer on the side. It also has a small enclosed entry porch with gable roof, which is asymmetrically placed on the front elevation.

Bungalowoid

The Bungalowoid is a one-story variation of the Craftsman style. The style is defined by gable or hipped roof shape, enclosed or open rafter overhangs, and generally features an open roofed porch. Often the plan is "Z" shaped where one gable element is set to the side and in front of the main roof gable form.

The building on the bottom right is a modest interpretation of the Bungalowoid style. Its main feature is the offset smaller front gable form in front of the main gable that results in a "Z" shaped floor plan.

The building below, built ca. 1945, is a modest interpretation of the Bungalowoid style. The hip-on-gable roof form is not an often-used detail for this style but does appear on some buildings of this era. The asymmetrically placed gable roofed entry is another feature typical of the Bungalowoid style.



Above: A Bungalowoid style house built ca. 1945 (11). Top Right: W.H. Bard House, built in 1906, is of the Prairie style (9). Right: A Bungalowoid style house built ca. 1950 (10).

National Folk

Buildings of the National Folk style are generally simple structures with basic forms and modest detailing. They were typically wood framed structures with horizontal lap siding or vertical board and batten siding. Typical plans were rectangular, square, or "L" shaped with side gable, front gable or cross gable roof forms. A variety of examples of the National Folk style exist in Nome.

The building at far right features a moderate sloped front gable roof form and asymmetrically placed steep sloped gable roofed enclosed porch. These details were common of the National Folk Style.

Other examples of various interpretations of the National Folk style exist in Nome. The building to the right, ca. 1920, features a steep pitched front gable roof form and full width hip roofed enclosed porch. The basic floor plan is "L" shaped with a hipped roof appendage to the rear and side of the building.

The building below, ca. 1950, is a very simple National Folk example with moderately sloped side gable roof form and rectangular plan.

The Reindeer House shown at bottom right features a moderately sloped front gable roof form with enclosed entry porch centered on the front elevation. It has been altered with

additions to both sides of the original rectangular shaped plan. The historic front façade is still discernable as it retains its original massing.



Top Left: National Folk style house built ca. 1920 (13). Top Right: National Folk style building ca. 1920 (12). Bottom Left: Circa 1950 National Folk house (14). Above: BIA Reindeer House, a National Folk style building built in 1934 (15).

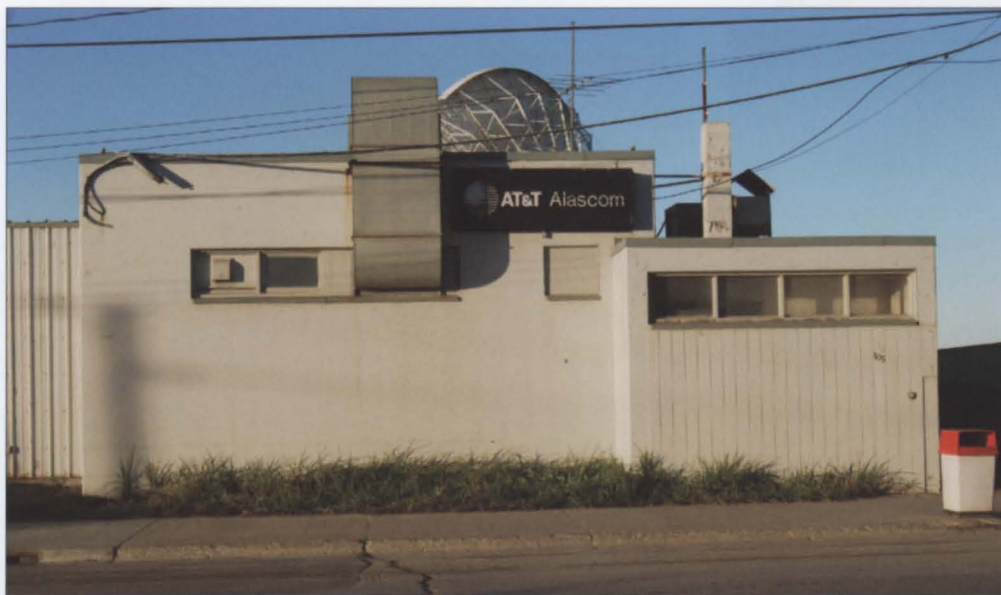
Modern Movement

Commercial and public buildings of the Modern Movement generally feature flat roofs with smooth faced walls and banded windows. The walls may be adorned with decorative detailing.

The Nome Post Office at right is an example of a modern style building. It has a flat roof with smooth concrete walls, windows aligned vertically and horizontally, and an asymmetrically located recessed entry. Detailing consists of granite wall surfacing and commemorative medallions at the entrance.

The Alascom building in the bottom-left photo features flat roofs, smooth concrete walls, and windows grouped in small bands.

Residential buildings of the Modern Movement feature clean lines and few details. The building in the bottom-right photo is of the Minimal Traditional sub-category that features a moderately sloped cross gable roof form. The walls are clad with vertical board and batten wood siding. The eaves are shallow and the gable features a simple return detail at the bottom of the gable rake.



Above: The Modern Alascom building built ca. 1950 (17). Top Right: The U.S Post Office is a Modern style building built in 1956 (16). Right: A Minimal Traditional style house built ca. 1950 (18).



No Style

Buildings that make no attempt to be fashionable but are designed and constructed to serve basic shelter needs fit the No Style category when historians classify resources. Although these buildings are void of stylized details, they do have character-defining features in their plans, massing, and forms. These buildings may be important to the history of an area.

A number of buildings in Nome fit the No Style category. They provide basic shelter needs for residential, industrial, or commercial uses. The building shown at far-middle right features a moderately sloped side gable roof form. The roof and walls are clad with corrugated metal siding and roofing. This mass produced steel material was widely used on industrial buildings in the early twentieth.



The Quonsut Hut shown above was developed as a portable building for the World War II effort. Its arched roof offered a clear span leaving the interior space void of columns thus providing opportunities for various floor plans. It was mass-produced and utilized throughout the country for storage, business, industrial, and residential uses. A number of Quonsut Huts were moved to Nome from Marks Air Force Base after it was decommissioned. This building has been modified with dormer windows along the side and a wooden false front at the far end as seen in the photo.

The Wild Goose railroad building shown at the top of this page was used as a locomotive and rail car repair shop. Its irregular shaped plan features a curved wall that followed the adjacent rail line. As rail cars passed the front entry a switch was engaged to change the track alignment. This allowed the train to back its cars or locomotive into the shop. The building has a hip roof and features corrugated metal roofing and siding.

The former Lomen Company warehouse shown in the middle photo is a large building that served the various



companies of the Lomen family. It features a steep pitched cross gable roof form and "L" shaped plan. It is clad with corrugated metal siding and roofing.

In the 1940s, the Butler Company began manufacturing steel frame buildings that came to be known as "Butler Buildings." Like the Quonsut Hut it was a mass-produced building system that was easy to assemble and provided inexpensive shelter. The building shown at the bottom of the page is a circa 1960s era design which features a steel frame that offers a clear span interior adaptable to numerous configurations. It has a low-sloped front gable roof form, is rectangular in plan, and has ribbed metal siding and roofing.

Far Left: Metal clad Quonsut Hut built ca. 1940 (20). Top: The Wild Goose Railroad building built in 1910 (21). Middle Left: Former Lomen Company warehouse built ca. 1910 (22). Middle Right: A basic metal clad building built in 1905 (19). Left: A "Butler" building built ca. 1960 (23).



Historic Districts

Background

Historic districts are unique and distinct areas or neighborhoods within a community that were developed during a specific period of time, have a unified character, and in which the buildings retain integrity of their original architectural character. The purpose of Historic Districts is to preserve historic significance, historic context, and historic integrity that are important to the community and to the historic landscape.



HISTORIC DISTRICTS

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Historic districts are areas of a community that are characterized by a high degree of historic integrity and architectural unity within a neighborhood.

Historic Districts are established to preserve historic significance, historic context, and historic integrity that are important to the community and to the historic landscape.

Historic Context

Historic context is the relationship between a historic property and its surroundings. It is the context that gives a historic property its significance and value.

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Historic Districts

Background

Historic districts are unique and distinct areas or neighborhoods within a community that were significant during a specific period of time, have a unified theme, and in which the buildings retain integrity of their original architectural character. The National Register of Historic Places identifies three concepts (historic significance, historic context, and historic integrity) that are used to evaluate whether or not a property is eligible for listing on the register.

Historic Significance

Historic significance is the importance of a property to the history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, or culture of a community. Significance may be on a local, state, or national level and can be achieved in the following ways:

- Criterion A. - Association with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history;
- Criterion B. - Association with the lives of persons significant in our past;
- Criterion C. - Embodiment of the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or;
- Criterion D. - Yielded, or potential to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Historic Context

Historic contexts are organized by theme, place, and time. The historic context links historic properties to important historic trends during the development of the community.

Historic Integrity

Historic integrity is the authenticity of a property's historic identity, evidenced by the survival of physical characteristics that existed during the property's period of significance. These characteristics include:

Location – the place where the historic property was constructed or the place where the historic event occurred

Design – the combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure, and style of a property

Setting – the physical environment of a historic property

Materials – the physical elements that were combined or deposited during a particular period of time and in a particular pattern or configuration to form a historic property

Workmanship – the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during any given period in history or prehistory

Feeling – a property's expression of the esthetic or historic sense of a particular period of time

Association – the direct link between an important historic event or person and a historic property.

To retain historic integrity a property will always possess several, and usually most, of the above characteristics. The retention of specific aspects of integrity is important for a property to convey its significance.

For a district to retain integrity as a whole, the majority of the components that make up the district's historic character must possess integrity even if they are individually undistinguished. In addition, the relationships among the district's components must be substantially unchanged since the period of significance. A district is not eligible if it contains so many alterations or new intrusions that it no longer conveys the sense of a historic environment.

Within historic districts buildings that retain historic integrity are referred to as contributing properties – that is they contribute to the overall historic character of the district. Buildings that are newer than the historic period or have been altered such that they no longer retain their historic character are referred to as non-contributing properties

Historic Districts of Nome

Background

In 1975 the Nome City Council adopted Ordinance 76-10-1. The ordinance established the Nome Historical District consisting of all lots within the city limits. Based on this action it is obvious that members of the community value the historic buildings that remain in Nome.

In developing the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for mitigating loss of the historic BIA Building 402 (Reindeer House), participating parties considered it important to investigate the potential for National Register eligible historic districts within the study area. The intent was not to make a formal determination of eligibility of historic districts in Nome, but to discuss associated contexts of

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF NOME, ALASKA: PROVIDING FOR SAFEGUARD OF THE HERITAGE OF THE CITY BY PRESERVING ITS CULTURAL, SOCIAL, ECONOMIC, POLITICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY: TO PROMOTE THE USE OF THE NOME HISTORIC DISTRICT FOR THE EDUCATION, PLEASURE AND WELFARE OF THE CITIZENS AND VISITORS OF THE CITY: AND TO FOSTER CIVIC BEAUTY.

SECTION 1. The establishment of the Nome Historical District which shall consist of all lots within the city limits of the City of Nome.

SECTION 2. Create an Historical Landmark Preservation Commission. There shall be nine (9) persons on the Commission appointed by the Mayor with the approval of the City Council. Such membership is to be selected from citizens dedicated to the proposition that the historical and cultural foundations of the City should be preserved as a living part of our community life and development in order to give a sense of orientation to the people of Nome.

SECTION 3. Power and duties of the Historical Landmark Preservation Commission. The Commission shall have the duties and be empowered to:

- Act in an advisory capacity to City Council in the identification of all structures and areas within the City that are of cultural, historical or geographical importance in the Heritage of the City or region.
- Recommend to the City Council that those structures and areas of significant importance be designated as historical landmarks.
- Develop and maintain a catalog of City landmarks and areas.

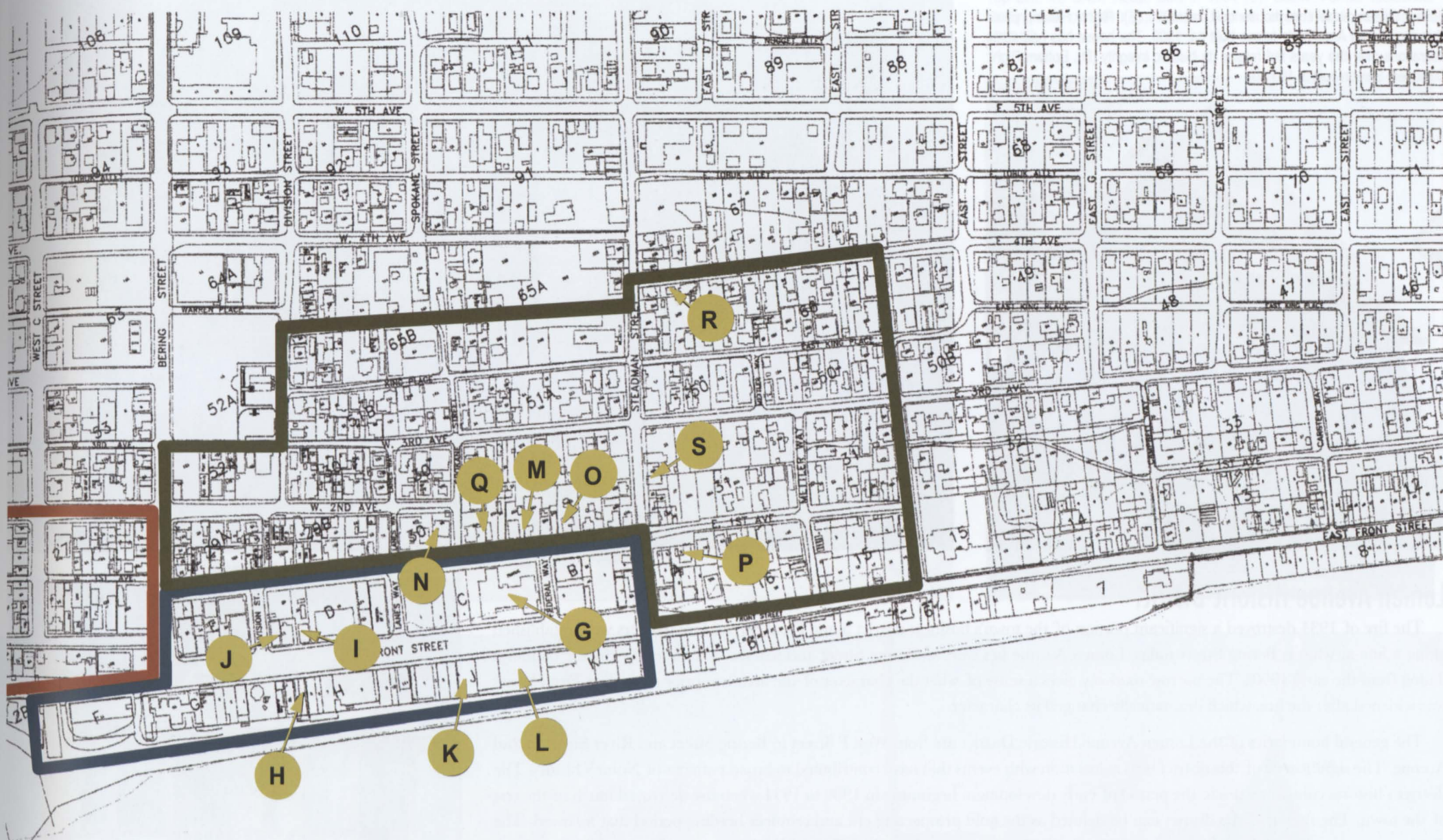
SECTION 4. It shall be mandatory for a property owner whose property is listed on the catalog of City landmarks and areas to submit to the Historical Landmark Preservation Commission proposed exterior plans before construction, alteration, moving or demolition of any structure in the Nome Historical District. It shall be unlawful to proceed with any construction, alteration, moving or demolition of any structure in the Nome Historical District without formal approval of the City Council.

the buildings within the study area. For this study, the boundaries of potential historic districts were developed based on visual continuity of various building styles, dates of construction, periods of significance, and common themes. The suggested boundaries are general in nature and require further study and analysis on a lot-by-lot basis to determine whether a district is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. The districts mentioned herein are preliminary and should not be considered final. In further study it may be determined that other districts within the City of Nome are also appropriate for designation.

A common practice in Nome was the relocation of buildings from their original sites. Buildings that are relocated typically lose their historic context and this needs to be addressed when considering eligibility for listing on the National Register. These moved buildings might retain historic significance depending on the specific situation that related to the move, the new site location, when they were moved, and the building's association with individuals, events, or design.

Three potential historic districts are discussed in this section. Included are photographs of a sampling of historic buildings within those districts. The map seen here identifies the boundaries of the potential historic districts. Letters indicate the location of buildings seen in the photographs.





POTENTIAL HISTORIC DISTRICTS MAP

- Lomen Street Historic District
- Front Street Historic District
- First Avenue Historic District
- A Letter of Photo in "Historic Districts of Nome"

Below: Queen Anne style house built ca. 1920 (E). Right: Historic photo showing Queen Anne style house built ca. 1900. The house has had some alterations over the years but retains its historic integrity (D). Bottom Right: Discovery Saloon built in 1901 (A).



Lomen Avenue Historic District

The fire of 1934 destroyed a significant portion of the town's business district along Front Street. Fire barriers were established along a line at what is Bering Street today. Lomen Avenue lies west of Bering Street and features a number of historic buildings dating from the early 1900s. The narrow roadway gives a sense of what the character of the area was prior to the fire. Front Street was widened after the fire, which dramatically changed its character.

The general boundaries of the Lomen Avenue Historic District are from West F Street to Bering Street and River Street to 2nd Avenue. The significance of this district is its association with events that have contributed to broad patterns of Nome's history. The district's historic context relates to the period of early development beginning in 1900 to 1934 when fire destroyed much of the rest of the town. The theme of the district can be defined as the gold prospecting era and reindeer herding period that followed. The district was primarily residential in use except for the farthest western edge, which featured warehouses and industrial buildings of the Lomen Company.

While a number of the buildings in this area have been modified, most retain basic forms, styles, and details of the original architecture. Several owners of buildings in this area have made significant efforts to renovate the homes in a sensitive manner to preserve important historical details.





Top Left: Ira Orton House built in 1904 (C). Below: Former residential building built ca. 1910 (B). Bottom: Former Lomen Warehouse built ca. 1910 (F).



Front Street Historic District

After the 1934 fire destroyed most of the buildings along Front Street the area was cleared of debris, the road was widened, and redevelopment began. One of the first buildings to rise was the Nome Federal Building as seen in the photo at the bottom of the following page. The building has since been remodeled and covered with wood siding such that it no longer retains historic integrity. This district was built and rebuilt at various times after destructive fires and storms impacted the area. The boundaries of this district are generally defined as the area from Bering Street to Steadman Street and First Street to the coast of Norton Sound.

The district is significant for its association with events that have contributed to broad patterns of Nome's history. The period of significance is 1934 through 1960. The theme of historic activities is one of rebuilding a community that suffered significant losses as a result of fire and storms. The area remains as the main commercial district of Nome along with government and residential uses. Many buildings retain historic integrity in the district.



Above: Nome Nugget building built in ca. 1897 (I). Top Right: False Front building built in 1957 (H). Right: Wein Building and Glue Pot, both built in 1935 (J).





Left: False Front building built ca. 1940 (K). Below: US Post Office built in 1956.(L) Bottom:
Nome Federal Building built ca. 1934 (G).



First Avenue Historic District

A number of buildings along First Avenue date to the early 1900s indicating the fire of 1934 did not totally destroy this area. Other buildings in the district were built after the fire as the town redeveloped to meet the needs of businesses and residents. This irregularly shaped district is generally described by boundaries of Bering Street to the west, Moore Way to the east, Fourth Avenue to the north and First Avenue to the south.

The significance of this district is its association with events that have contributed to broad patterns of Nome's history. The period of significance spans the years from the early 1900s to 1960. The district theme can be divided into sub-themes that include the early gold rush period of the 1900s and rebuilding efforts after 1934. The primary use in the district is residential but also includes commercial businesses.



Above: House built ca. 1920, later converted for business use (Q). Top Right: BIA Reindeer Building built in 1914 (N). Right: BIA Reindeer House built in 1934, later converted for a residential treatment center (P). Far Right: National Folk House built ca. 1920 (M).





Top Left: Historic photo, 1948, showing BIA building 402 at center (P on map) and Bungaloid style house at lower center (S on map). Both buildings have been modified over time but retain historic integrity of their particular style. Above: Queen Anne style house built ca. 1915 (O). Left: House built ca. 1920, during recent rehabilitation (R).



Historic Preservation

Comprehensive Plan

The Comprehensive Plan is a long-range policy statement that guides the development of the city. It is a blueprint for the future, providing a framework for decision-making and a basis for action. The plan is developed by the city council, with input from the community and various city departments. It covers a wide range of issues, including land use, transportation, housing, and the environment. The plan is updated regularly to reflect changes in the city and the needs of the community.

Downtown Rome

Downtown Rome is the heart of the city, a vibrant area with a rich history and a diverse population. It is a place where the past meets the present, where old buildings and streets are being restored and repurposed. The city is committed to preserving the historic character of downtown Rome while also promoting economic development and creating new jobs. The city is working to attract investment and encourage the development of new businesses and housing in the area. The city is also working to improve the infrastructure and public services in downtown Rome, making it a more attractive and livable place.

History and Cultural Resources

History and cultural resources are the foundation of a city's identity and character. They are the stories and traditions that shape a community and give it a sense of place. The city is committed to preserving and promoting its history and cultural resources, ensuring that they are passed on to future generations. The city is working to identify and protect historic sites and buildings, and to create museums and cultural centers that celebrate the city's heritage. The city is also working to support the arts and cultural industries, providing a platform for creative expression and community engagement.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

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The city is committed to preserving and promoting its history and cultural resources, ensuring that they are passed on to future generations. The city is working to identify and protect historic sites and buildings, and to create museums and cultural centers that celebrate the city's heritage. The city is also working to support the arts and cultural industries, providing a platform for creative expression and community engagement. The city is committed to preserving the historic character of downtown Rome while also promoting economic development and creating new jobs. The city is working to attract investment and encourage the development of new businesses and housing in the area. The city is also working to improve the infrastructure and public services in downtown Rome, making it a more attractive and livable place.

Historic Preservation

Why Historic Preservation?

The history of a community contributes to its personality. Preserving the history of a place through its historic properties retains a community's unique character. Historic preservation provides a link to the roots of the community and its people. It provides economic development opportunities in tourism and construction related jobs for repair and rehabilitation. Overall, historic preservation adds to the quality of life making for a more livable community.

Historic preservation efforts may be affected by local, state, and national influences including social, political, environmental, economic, legal, and other factors. They arise from private enterprises and public agencies. Successful preservation planning recognizes these influences and utilizes a process for reaching consensus within the community in resolving conflicts that may arise from development trends.

Trends Affecting Historic Resources

Tourism

Heritage tourism is a growing sector of the tourism industry. Increased use of a historic resource through tourism development may have detrimental impacts to the property. Care should be taken to control the level of use and impacts to assure the integrity of the property is maintained. The balance between preservation and sharing the resource is critical as protection may be dependent on the economic benefits that tourism brings.

New Development

As communities grow, pressure arises for new and larger buildings to meet the needs of businesses and residents. New development in historic districts can dilute the overall historic character by compromising the scale and fabric of the neighborhood. Additions and remodeling of existing buildings can have a negative impact to the overall character of the district if they are not done in a sensitive manner. Development and adoption of local design guidelines for new development within historic districts is an important tool for preserving the overall character of historic districts and individual properties. Guidelines need to allow new buildings to reflect their own time but should identify general characteristics that would enhance the historic neighborhood rather than detract from the established architectural character.

Demolition

Often buildings are demolished to make way for new development. This practice has major impacts to the character of historic districts and in many cases is not as cost effective as rehabilitation of the existing buildings. Communities should consider offering financial assistance for preservation activities through grants, low interest loans, and tax incentives. Typically renovation of existing buildings provides economic benefits to the community through increased local labor and materials purchases.

Maintenance

Buildings in general and especially historic buildings require periodic repair and maintenance. Neglecting maintenance needs of historic buildings may lead to their destruction over time. Maintenance that is delayed often results in being too costly to reverse in later years.

Relatively simple tasks such as keeping roofing intact to not allow water intrusion and the inevitable rot that would occur will preserve buildings for the future. Protecting wood elements with paint or preservative treatment will prolong materials.

Historic Preservation of Nome

Comprehensive Plan

In 2003 the Nome City Council adopted The City of Nome Comprehensive Plan – Phase I. The overall vision of the plan is stated as follows: “The key elements of the plan are its goals, objectives, and actions. Goals are general achievements that the City wishes to accomplish in the future. Objectives are specific and achievable statements in support of a goal. Actions are task-oriented events that lead to an assignment and timeframe.”

The plan is divided into various planning topics. The following topics taken from the Comprehensive Plan identify goals, objectives, and actions that relate to historic preservation in Nome.

Downtown Nome

Goal 1: Create a vital downtown area in Nome that benefits residents and visitors.

Objective 1.5: Develop a plan, including funding options, for restoring and/or removing derelict buildings and renovation and reusing older underused commercial buildings in the downtown area.

Action 1.5.1: Consider a tax-deferred ordinance for “historic” construction.

History and Cultural Resources

Goal 6: Preserve the Nome’s unique history and cultural resources

Objective 6.9: Preserve and enhance the history of Nome during World War II

Historic Preservation Ordinance

In 1975 the Nome City Council adopted Ordinance 76-10-1. The ordinance established the Nome Historical District consisting of all lots within the city limits of the City of Nome.

The ordinance also established a Historic Landmark Preservation Commission. The Commission’s duties include the identification of important cultural, historical, and geographical structures; recommending those structures and areas of significant importance as historical landmarks; and developing and maintaining a catalog of historic landmarks and areas.

Further, the ordinance stated that it shall be mandatory for owners of property listed in the catalog of City landmarks to submit to the Historic Landmark Preservation Commission proposed exterior plans before construction, alteration, moving, or demolition.

Finally, the ordinance establishes that if the City Council objects to the demolition or removal of a historic structure, the Council may delay demolition or removal for 14 days in order for the Council to make an attempt to salvage the structure in some agreeable manner.

Ordinance 76-10-1

page 2

SECTION 5. If Council objects to the demolition or removal of an Historic Structure, Council may hold up demolition or removal for 14 days, in order for Council to make an attempt to salvage the structure in some agreeable manner:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Nome, Alaska, that the Nome Historic District is hereby established for the education, pleasure and welfare of the citizens and visitors of the City of Nome, and to foster civic beauty.

Dated this 10th day of November 1975 at Nome, Alaska.

CITY OF NOME, ALASKA

Robert H. Renshaw
Robert H. Renshaw, Mayor

Attest:

H. L. Hensley
H. L. Hensley, City Clerk

Future Preservation of Nome

Nome has numerous significant historic resources that are valuable to the community and should be protected and preserved. Some preservation activities have taken place by individuals and the local government. A concerted effort should be made to assure the long-term protection and preservation of these resources enhancing the cultural and economic benefits for the community.

In 1975 the Nome City Council adopted a historic preservation ordinance as discussed in the previous section of this publication. In discussions with city staff it appears that provisions of the ordinance are not enforced especially as it relates to the alterations to historic buildings. Nome also adopted a Comprehensive Plan in 2003, which identifies goals, objectives, and actions relating to historic resources.

The following are recommendations that should be considered for improving protection of important historic resources of Nome.

Enforce the Historic Preservation Ordinance

Nome has an existing ordinance that establishes a Landmark Preservation Commission charged with identifying historic resources, recommending significant structures and areas for landmark designation, and maintaining a catalog of city landmarks and areas. This is an essential first step to preserving the historic buildings of Nome and should be actively pursued.

Update the Nome Comprehensive Plan

Comprehensive Plans typically are reviewed and updated periodically. At the next opportunity the section on Historic and Cultural Resources should be expanded to include objectives and actions relative to identifying, preserving, and protecting historic resources in Nome.

Identify Historic Resources

Numerous studies and documents have recorded many historic resources of Nome. The Alaska Office of History and Archeology maintains a list of resources on its Alaska's Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS). In 1982, Kimberly Hunter compiled the Nome Survey Project in conjunction with the Northwest Community College in Nome, which identifies numerous historic buildings. The Nome Chamber of Commerce has a historic walking tour of important historic buildings.

While these past works help identify historic resources, a more comprehensive survey should be undertaken. A lot-by-lot survey and evaluation would provide base line information for planning and protection of significant historic resources.

Develop a Historic Preservation Plan

The development of a Historic Preservation Plan would identify important historic resources within the community and establish a public process for decision making when development and other pressures threaten historic and cultural resources. Development of the plan would involve members of the public and set goals and objectives for preservation. Typically historic preservation plans are adopted as part of a comprehensive plan as they provide more specific goals, objectives, and actions that relate to protection of historic resources.

Develop Educational Programs

A primary influence in developing support for historic preservation is to educate the community to its values. Educational programs that incorporate history and historic buildings can instill pride in the community and give citizens purpose for preserving the historic character of the buildings and structures.

Establish Standards and Guidelines for Preservation

To assist owners of historic buildings and to assure that the historic character of a building is maintained and preserved, standards and guidelines should be established. General guidelines were presented in a previous chapter of this publication. Specific standards should be developed to promote historic preservation and give owners choices for remodeling and additions to their buildings. In the following section of this publication is a discussion and example of historic standards and guidelines that should be developed for Nome's particular situation.



Prepare Nominations to National Register of Historic Places

The historic preservation ordinance adopted in 1975 established the entire city of Nome as a historical district, although, there are many historic buildings in the city limits that may have been modified, moved, or demolished since 1975. Further study should be undertaken to evaluate the extent of potential historic districts as exists today.

Three potential historic districts have been identified as part of this study. These districts should be further studied for historic integrity. Districts or individual buildings that meet the National Register criteria should be nominated for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

Placement on the register is another way to educate the

community of the value of the history and buildings of Nome. Historic resources that are listed on the National Register are eligible for grants and tax incentives that may be available for preservation activities.

Preserve America and Saving America's treasures are two federal grant programs that offer monetary assistance for historic preservation. Preserve America programs focus on education and planning while Save America's Treasures funds "brick and mortar" development projects to perform preservation work for buildings and structures. The Internal Revenue Service offers tax credits for preservation work performed on National Register properties when done in a manner that preserves the historic integrity of the resource.

Become a Certified Local Government

The National Historic Preservation Act established the Certified Local Government (CLG) program to provide financial and technical assistance for preservation of historic resources at the local level. To participate in the program, a local government must adopt a local historic preservation ordinance, establish a historic preservation commission, implement a historic resources inventory, and provide for public participation in the program. The City of Nome has an ordinance that addresses these elements of the CLG designation. Nome should work to be officially recognized by the State Historic Preservation Office as a CLG.

The Alaska State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) is responsible for carrying out provisions of the CLG program. Once certified, communities are asked to participate in the review process of federally funded or permitted projects that may have potential to impact local historic resources. CLGs are eligible for matching grant programs to assist with performing historic resource surveys and inventories, making National Register nominations, developing education material, and protecting and preserving historic resources.





Sample of Change Over Time

The first step in the process of preservation is to identify the object and its significance. This is often done by a professional conservator or a knowledgeable collector. The next step is to assess the condition of the object and determine what type of treatment is needed. This may involve cleaning, repair, or replacement of parts. The final step is to store the object in a safe and secure location, where it can be protected from further damage and deterioration.

The second step in the process of preservation is to document the object. This is done by creating a detailed record of its physical characteristics, including its size, shape, color, and texture. This record is often in the form of a written description or a photograph. The third step is to create a plan for the object's future care. This plan should take into account the object's current condition, its historical significance, and the resources available for its care. The plan should also specify the type of treatment that is needed and the location where the object will be stored.

The third step in the process of preservation is to implement the plan. This involves carrying out the treatment and storing the object in the designated location. The fourth step is to monitor the object's condition over time. This is done by regularly inspecting the object and recording any changes in its condition. The fifth step is to evaluate the effectiveness of the preservation efforts. This is done by comparing the object's current condition to its original condition and determining whether the preservation efforts have been successful.

General

Preservation Standards

Preservation Guidelines

PRESERVATION STANDARDS & GUIDELINES

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General

Owners of significant historic properties carry a responsibility to respect the historic character and setting of the property. Property owners should recognize that historic preservation is a long-range objective that promotes overall viability for the community.

Over time, buildings require general maintenance and periodic repairs. Owners may also make additions to their buildings. Performing these projects requires sensitivity to the historic character of the building through preservation of its features and details. Preservation standards and guidelines offer assistance to historic building owners in protecting the unique character of the property.

Preservation Standards

The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Treatment of Historic Properties, 1995 provides generally accepted guidance for preservation activities. The first decision to be made is what preservation approach to choose. One of four approaches may be taken when planning a historic property project: preservation, rehabilitation, restoration, and reconstruction.

Preservation focuses on the ongoing maintenance, stabilization, and repair of historic buildings, materials, and features rather than on extensive replacement or new construction.

Rehabilitation is making possible a compatible use for a historic property through repair, alterations, and additions, while preserving those portions or features that convey its historical, cultural, or architectural values.

Restoration is the accurate preservation of form, features, and character of a property as it appeared at a particular period of time. This includes the removal of features from other periods in its history and the reconstruction of features that may have been lost from the restoration period.

Reconstruction is the process of depicting, by means of new construction, the form, features, and detailing of a non-surviving site, landscape, building, structure, or object for the purpose of replicating its appearance at a specific period of time and in its historic location.

Preservation Guidelines

The first step in planning a preservation project is to identify the character defining features, details, and materials. Significant features of a building enhance the overall quality and integrity of the historic property. Proper preservation of significant features begins with the selection of an appropriate treatment. The method of preservation that has the least impact to the original features is preferred. By following this approach, the highest degree of integrity will be maintained for the property. In selecting preferred treatments for preservation the sequence below should be followed:

Preserve - Buildings and their historic features that are intact and in good condition should be maintained, stabilized, and protected.

Repair - Features that are deteriorated or damaged should be repaired to their original condition. Do not remove material beyond that necessary to repair the damaged portion.

Replace - If it is not feasible to repair a feature, then replace it with one that is the same or similar in character and materials to the original.

Reconstruct - If a feature is missing entirely, reconstruct it based on original materials and details.

Addition - If a new feature or addition is necessary, design it in such a way as to minimize the impact on original features. It is also important to distinguish new features from original historic elements. Additions to historic buildings can change the character in dramatic ways and should be done with sensitivity and attention to preserving the unique features and details.

Example of Change Over Time

The Nome Reindeer House (BIA 402) at right as it appeared before numerous changes and additions occurred over time. Constructed in 1934, the building provided offices on the first floor and storage on the second. The building was a simple front gable form and rectangular in plan. Distinguishing features included wall and roof cladding of vertically placed corrugated galvanized metal. Wood corner boards provided a character-defining element to the wall treatment. Windows were divided light wood windows with double-hung units on the first floor and fixed units on the second floor.

In 1939, the use of the building changed from offices to residential with a complete apartment on each floor. To accommodate the new use, an addition was constructed that created a cross gable form with a new entry door on the left side of the front elevation. The entry was set back from the front a slight distance that allowed the corner board to remain. More distance would have been preferred to visually separate the addition, however, it was still evident where the original form occurred. It appears that similar metal siding was used on the addition whereas a different material would have been more appropriate to visually separate the addition from the original. The door would have been better placed on the side of the addition thereby not competing with the original door element.

Sometime between 1939 and 1960 the second floor entry on the left of the front elevation was extended to form a gable roof form over the door and porch. This was likely to avoid snow sliding down in front of the door from the previous roof slope. The addition extended the entry past the face of the original building thereby compromising the visual separation of the addition from the historic facade.

Sometime between 1960 and the present, original windows



were removed and replaced with units that are significantly different from the original. Windows are an important character-defining element of historic architecture. In addition, the original corrugated metal siding was removed or covered with horizontally placed composite shingles and vertical board and batten in the gables. These changes dramatically altered the historic character of the building.



Left: BIA Building 402 ca. 1937. The building retains its original character as it was constructed in 1934. Top Left: BIA Building, ca. 1960 seen with addition of a gable roof enclosed entry to the left side of the building. Top: BIA Building 402 seen with a 1939 addition to the left side of the building. Above: BIA Building 402 in 2007 with significant changes including horizontal shingle siding, vertical board and batten siding in the gable, and replacement of original windows.

Preferred Preservation Approach

Alterations and additions are typical activities that impact the character of historic buildings and are seen on many examples in Nome. Changes to existing buildings are inevitable as families grow or uses of building change. But these changes can be done in harmony with the historic character of the building thereby preserving the physical reminders of the history of a community.

Using BIA Building 402 as an example, the sketch below illustrates the preferred approach for constructing an addition to an historic building. This approach would preserve much of the original architectural features and character of the building yet allows the needed additions.

The added entrance to the second floor is set back from the front wall to allow the original front gable form to be recognized as a historic feature of the building. The door to the secondary entrance is placed on the side so not to visually conflict with the main entrance and to avoid rain and snow cascading onto the entry porch.

Siding materials for the addition were chosen to contrast with the original to provide visual separation between the new and old. Original corrugated metal siding is retained on the historic portions of the building in an effort to retain as much of the original character as possible.

The original windows would be retained if possible. If they were damaged beyond repair, new windows would be installed that have the same features (divided light, double-hung) thereby creating an appearance of the original.

The end result is a building that has been altered to meet today's needs but retains much of its historic architectural character.





The following is a list of terms that relate to the principles and practice of architecture.

Architect - A person who designs and oversees the construction of buildings.

Architectural drawing - A drawing that shows the design of a building, including its structure, materials, and details.

Architectural model - A three-dimensional representation of a building design, used to visualize the design and communicate it to others.

Architectural rendering - A two-dimensional representation of a building design, typically a photograph or a computer-generated image.

Architectural site plan - A drawing that shows the location of a building on a site, including its relationship to the surrounding landscape and other buildings.

Architectural section - A drawing that shows a cross-section of a building, revealing its internal structure and components.

Architectural elevation - A drawing that shows the exterior of a building from a specific perspective, including its materials, colors, and details.

Architectural detail - A drawing that shows a specific part of a building, such as a window, door, or roof, in greater detail than the overall drawing.

Architectural specification - A document that lists the materials, products, and construction methods to be used in a building project.

Architectural contract - A legal agreement between an architect and a client, outlining the scope of the project, the architect's fees, and the terms of the relationship.

Architectural permit - A document issued by a local government, allowing a building to be constructed according to the architect's plans.

Architectural review - A process by which a local government reviews and approves architectural plans before a building permit is issued.

Architectural commission - A group of people, typically appointed by a local government, to review and recommend architectural plans for public buildings.

Architectural council - A professional organization for architects, typically responsible for setting standards and regulating the profession.

Architectural association - A group of architects who have joined together to promote their interests and provide mutual support.

Architectural society - A group of people, typically interested in architecture, who meet regularly to discuss and study the field.

Architectural journal - A publication that features articles, drawings, and photographs related to architecture.

Architectural magazine - A publication that features articles, drawings, and photographs related to architecture, typically aimed at a general audience.

Architectural book - A publication that features articles, drawings, and photographs related to architecture, typically aimed at a specialized audience.

Architectural film - A motion picture that features articles, drawings, and photographs related to architecture.

Architectural television - A television program that features articles, drawings, and photographs related to architecture.

Architectural website - A website that features articles, drawings, and photographs related to architecture.

Architectural database - A collection of information related to architecture, typically stored in a computer database.

Architectural archive - A collection of historical documents and drawings related to architecture, typically stored in a library or museum.

Architectural library - A collection of books and documents related to architecture, typically located in a university or research institution.

Architectural museum - A museum that displays architectural models, drawings, and other artifacts related to the field.

Architectural gallery - A gallery that displays architectural drawings, models, and other artifacts related to the field.

Architectural studio - A place where architects work, typically equipped with drawing tables, computers, and other tools.

Architectural office - A place where architects work, typically equipped with drawing tables, computers, and other tools.

Architectural firm - A group of architects who work together, typically providing architectural services to clients.

Architectural practice - The work of an architect, typically involving the design and construction of buildings.

Architectural profession - The work of architects, typically involving the design and construction of buildings.

Architectural industry - The work of architects, typically involving the design and construction of buildings.

Architectural community - A group of people, typically interested in architecture, who share a common interest in the field.

Architectural culture - The shared values, beliefs, and practices of the architectural community.

Architectural history - The study of the development of architecture over time, typically focusing on the work of individual architects and the evolution of building styles.

Architectural theory - The study of the principles and concepts that underlie architecture, typically focusing on the relationship between form and function.

Architectural criticism - The evaluation and interpretation of architectural works, typically based on a set of criteria or standards.

Architectural education - The process of learning about architecture, typically through a combination of formal education and practical experience.

Architectural research - The process of investigating and discovering new information about architecture, typically through a combination of theoretical and practical research.

Architectural innovation - The process of developing new ideas and techniques in architecture, typically through a combination of creative thinking and practical experimentation.

Architectural sustainability - The process of designing and constructing buildings that are environmentally friendly, socially responsible, and economically viable.

Architectural resilience - The process of designing and constructing buildings that are able to withstand and recover from natural disasters and other crises.

Architectural adaptability - The process of designing and constructing buildings that are able to change and evolve over time to meet changing needs and circumstances.

Architectural flexibility - The process of designing and constructing buildings that are able to accommodate a variety of different uses and functions.

Architectural inclusivity - The process of designing and constructing buildings that are accessible and usable by people of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds.

Architectural equity - The process of designing and constructing buildings that are distributed fairly and equitably across different communities and populations.

Architectural justice - The process of designing and constructing buildings that are fair and just, taking into account the needs and interests of all stakeholders.

Architectural ethics - The study of the moral principles and values that guide the practice of architecture, typically focusing on issues such as honesty, integrity, and responsibility.

Architectural law - The study of the legal principles and rules that govern the practice of architecture, typically focusing on issues such as contracts, liability, and intellectual property.

Architectural policy - The study of the public policies and programs that affect the practice of architecture, typically focusing on issues such as zoning, building codes, and public housing.

Architectural planning - The process of developing a long-term vision and strategy for the future of architecture, typically involving a combination of research, analysis, and decision-making.

Architectural management - The process of overseeing and coordinating the work of an architectural firm or organization, typically involving a combination of administrative and creative tasks.

Architectural leadership - The process of inspiring and motivating others to achieve a common goal in the field of architecture, typically involving a combination of vision, communication, and action.

Architectural mentorship - The process of providing guidance and support to a less experienced architect, typically through a combination of advice, feedback, and encouragement.

Architectural networking - The process of building and maintaining relationships with other professionals in the field of architecture, typically through a combination of formal and informal means.

Architectural collaboration - The process of working together with other professionals in the field of architecture to achieve a common goal, typically through a combination of communication, coordination, and shared resources.

Architectural partnership - A formal arrangement between two or more architects or organizations to work together on a project, typically involving a combination of shared resources, expertise, and responsibility.

Architectural joint venture - A formal arrangement between two or more architects or organizations to work together on a project, typically involving a combination of shared resources, expertise, and responsibility.

Architectural alliance - A formal arrangement between two or more architects or organizations to work together on a project, typically involving a combination of shared resources, expertise, and responsibility.

Architectural consortium - A formal arrangement between two or more architects or organizations to work together on a project, typically involving a combination of shared resources, expertise, and responsibility.

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APPENDIX

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Glossary of Terms

The following is a selection of terms that relate to the principles and practice of historic preservation.

Adaptive Reuse – Refers to the recycling of an old building for use other than that for which it was originally constructed.

Arch – A curved construction usually spanning an opening or used for decorative purposes.

Asphalt shingles – A type of roofing material composed of layers of saturated felt, cloth, or paper, and coated with a tar or asphalt substance and granules.

Bay Window – A window or set of windows, which project out from a wall, forming an alcove or small space in a room.

Bracket – A supporting member for a projecting element or shelf, sometimes in the shape of an inverted “L” and sometimes as a solid piece or a triangular truss.

Building – A resource created principally to shelter any form of human activity, such as a house.

Capital – The topmost member, usually decorated, of a column or pilaster.

Clapboards – Narrow, horizontal, overlapping wooden boards, usually thicker along the bottom edge, that form the outer skin of the walls of many wood frame houses. The exposed surface of the boards ranges from 4 to 6 inches in older buildings.

Column – A slender upright structure generally consisting of a cylindrical shaft, a base, and a capital.

Contributing Resource – A building, site, structure, or object that adds to the significance of a historic property.

Corbel – A projection or one of a series of projections, each stepped progressively farther forward with height; anchored in a wall, story, column, or chimney; used to support an overhanging member above.

Cornice – The exterior trim of a structure at the meeting of the roof and wall.

Cross Gable – A building where there are two gable roof forms perpendicular to each other forming a cross in plan.

Divided Light Window – A window with the glass divided into small panes.

Dormer – A structure projecting from a sloping roof usually housing a window or ventilating louver.

Double Hung Window – A window having two vertically sliding sashes each closing a different part of the window.

Eaves – The lower edge of a sloping roof; that part of a roof of

a building, which projects beyond the wall.

Eyebrow Dormer – A low dormer on the slope of a roof. It has no sides the roofing being carried over it in a low arch or wave line.

Facade – Front or principal face of a building. Any side of a building that faces a street or other open space.

False Front – A front wall, which extends beyond the sidewalls of a building to create a more imposing facade.

Fascia – A flat board with a vertical face that forms the trim along the edge of a flat roof, or along the horizontal, or eaves sides of a pitched roof.

Fenestration – The arrangement and design of windows in a building.

Form – The overall shape of a structure.

Front Gable – A gabled roof form building where the front of the building is on the gable end.

Gable – The vertical triangular portion of the end of a building having a double-sloping roof, from the level of the cornice or eaves to the ridge of the roof.

Glazing – Fitting glass into windows and doors.

Head – The top horizontal member over a door or window opening.

Hip on Gable Roof – The end of a roof when it is formed into a shape intermediate between a gable and a hip.

Hip Roof – A roof, which slopes upward from all four sides of a building, requiring a hip rafter at each corner.

Historic Context – information about historic trends and properties grouped by an important theme in the prehistory or history of a community, State, or the nation during a particular period of time.

Historic District – A significant concentration of sites, buildings, structures or objects united historically or aesthetically by plan or physical development.

Historic Integrity – the authenticity of a property's historic identity, evidenced by the survival of physical characteristics that existed during the property's historic or prehistoric period.

Historic Property – a district, site, building, structure or object significant in American history, architecture, engineering, archeology, or culture at a national, State, or local level.

Historic Significance – the importance of a property to the history, architecture, archeology, engineering, or culture of a community, State, or the nation.

In-Kind Replacement – To replace a feature of a building with materials of the same characteristics, such as material, texture, color, etc.

Inventory – a list of historic properties determined to meet specified criteria of significance.

Lap Siding – See “clapboards.”

Mass – The physical size and bulk of a structure.

National Register Criteria – the established criteria for evaluating the eligibility of properties for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

Non-contributing Resource – A building, site, structure, or object that does not add to the historic significance of a property.

Overhang – The projection of an upper story or roof beyond the story immediately below

Palladian Window – A window of large size divided by columns or piers resembling pilasters into three lights, the middle one of which is usually wider than the others and is sometimes arched.

Parapet – A low wall used along the edge of a roof.

Pediment – In classical architecture, the triangular gable end of the roof above the horizontal cornice often filled with sculpture. In later work, a surface used ornamentally over doors or windows, usually triangular but may be curved.

Pilaster – A support treated architecturally as a column, with a base, shaft, and capital that is attached to a wall surface.

Property Type – a grouping of individual properties based on a set of shared physical or associative characteristics.

Pyramidal Roof – A roof hipped equally on all sides so as to have a pyramidal form.

Rafter – Any of the beams that slope from the ridge of a roof to the eaves and serve to support the roof.

Rake – A board or molding along the sloping edge of a gable.

Return – The continuation of a molding, projection, member, or cornice in a different direction usually at a right angle.

Roof Crest – A wall or decorative element along the ridge of a roof.

Rose Window – A large circular medieval window containing tracery disposed in a radial manner.

Shape – The general outline of a building or its façade.

Shed Dormer – A dormer whose eave line is parallel to the eave line of the main roof instead of being gabled.

Shed Roof – A roof slope having only one sloping plane.

Side Gable – A gabled roof form building where the front of the building is on the side.

Siding – The narrow horizontal or vertical wood boards that form the outer face of the walls in a traditional wood frame house. The term is also more loosely used to describe any material that can be applied to the outside of a building as a finish.

Sill – The lowest horizontal member in a frame or opening for a window or door.

Soffit – The underside of a structural part, as of a beam, arch, or rafter tails.

Stile – A vertical piece in a panel or frame, as of a door or window.

Streetscape – The character of the street, or how elements of the street form a cohesive environment.

Tower – A building characterized by its relatively great height.

Transom – A window located above a door or window.

Turret – A diminutive tower characteristically corbelled from a corner.

Vernacular Architecture – A mode of building based on regional forms and materials.

Window Parts – The moving units of a window are known as sashes and move within the fixed frame. The sash may consist of one large pane of glass or may be subdivided into smaller panes by thin members called muntins or glazing bars. Sometimes larger window divisions called mullions are used.

Photographic Citations

All current photographs by Renee Hughes, Photographer, and BIA Branch of Regional Archeology, unless otherwise noted. Historic photographs are listed below organized by the page upon which the photograph appears.



COVER Discovery Saloon, Nome. Photographer: Lynn C. Denny; Date: 1908; Collection: Alaska and Polar Regions Archives, Rasmuson Library, University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF-67-34-183); Courtesy of Carol Gales



COVER BIA Reindeer House, Nome. Photographer: Unknown; Date: ca. 1960; Collection: Records of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Record Group 75; Courtesy of National Archives and Records Administration - Pacific Alaska Region, Anchorage, Alaska.



TITLE PAGE BIA Reindeer House, Nome. Photographer: Unknown; Date: ca. 1920; Collection: Historical Schools Album of Bureau of Education - Bureau of Indian Affairs Schools in Alaska, 1924-1931; Courtesy of National Archives and Records Administration - Pacific Alaska Region, Anchorage, Alaska.



TITLE PAGE BIA Reindeer House, Nome. Photographer: Unknown; Date: ca. 1956; Collection: Photographs of Schools, Hospitals, and Clinic, Box 24; Records of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Records Group 75; Courtesy of National Archives and Records Administration - Pacific Alaska Region, Anchorage, Alaska.



PAGE 11 Aerial view along Steadman Street, Nome, Alaska. Photographer: Unknown; Date: ca. 1948; Collection: Unknown; Courtesy of Carrie M. McLain Memorial Museum, Nome, Alaska



PAGE 14 Eskimos and their igloo on sandspit, Nome. Photographer: O.D. Goetze; Date: ca. 1900; Collection: O.D. Goetze; Courtesy of Anchorage Museum at Rasmuson Center, Library & Archives, Anchorage, Alaska (AMRC-b01-41-104a)



PAGE 15 Front Street, Nome. Photographer: Unknown; Date: ca. 1900; Collection: Nome Buildings Vol. 1; Courtesy of Carrie M. McLain Memorial Museum, Nome, Alaska (NMP 82-33-1)



PAGE 15 Cabin built of logs and sod, Nome. Photographer: Alfred G. Simmer; Date: ca. 1907; Collection: Alfred G. Simmer; Courtesy of Alaska State Library - Historical Collections, Juneau, Alaska (ASL-P137-038)



PAGE 15 Chechacoe's [sic] landing at Nome. Photographer: O.D. Goetze; Date: June 3, 1908; Collection: O.D. Goetze; Courtesy of Anchorage Museum at Rasmuson Center, Library & Archives, Anchorage, Alaska (AMRC-b01-41-36b)



PAGE 15 Series of residential buildings, Nome. Photographer: Unknown; Date: ca. 1900; Collection: Nome Buildings Vol. 1; Courtesy of Carrie M. McLain Memorial Museum, Nome, Alaska (NMP 82-70-21)



PAGE 16 Front Street, Nome. Photographer: Unknown; Date: ca. 1900; Collection: Jacobs; Courtesy of Carrie M. McLain Memorial Museum, Nome, Alaska (Jacobs 601)



PAGE 16 Birds eye view, Nome. Photographer: O.D. Goetze; Date: ca. 1899; Collection: O.D. Goetze; Courtesy of Anchorage Museum at Rasmuson Center, Library & Archives, Anchorage, Alaska (AMRC-b01-41-88)



PAGE 17 BIA Reindeer Building, Nome. Photographer: Unknown; Date: ca. 1920; Collection: Historical Schools Album of Bureau of Education - Bureau of Indian Affairs Schools in Alaska, 1924-1931; Courtesy of National Archives and Records Administration - Pacific Alaska Region, Anchorage, Alaska.



PAGE 17 BIA Reindeer House, Nome. Photographer: Unknown; Date: ca. 1937; Collection: Records of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Record Group 75; Courtesy of National Archives and Records Administration - Pacific Alaska Region, Anchorage, Alaska.



PAGE 18 Debris after the fire, Nome. Photographer: O.D. Goetze; Date: September 13, 1905; Collection: Cordelia L.M. Noble; Courtesy of Alaska and Polar Regions Collections, Elmer E. Rasmuson Library, University of Alaska Fairbanks, Fairbanks, Alaska (UAF-1973-203-11)



PAGE 18 Debris after the big fire, Nome. Photographer: O.D. Goetze; Date: 1905; Collection: Cordelia L.M. Noble; Courtesy of Alaska and Polar Regions Collections, Elmer E. Rasmuson Library, University of Alaska Fairbanks, Fairbanks, Alaska (UAF-1973-203-10)



PAGE 18 Birds eye view in winter, Nome. Photographer: Richter Photos; Date: 1946-1947; Collection: Howard and Mabel Jonish; Courtesy of University of Alaska Anchorage, Consortium Library, Archives and Special Collections, Anchorage, Alaska (UAA-hmc-0428-series5-f1-1)



PAGE 19 Front Street during big storm, Nome. Photographer: O.D. Goetze; Date: ca. 1915; Collection: Dr. Daniel S. Neuman; Courtesy of Alaska State Library - Historical Collection, Juneau, Alaska (ASL-P307-0018)

Preservation Resources



PAGE 19 Lincoln Hotel after storm, Nome. Photographer: Jacobs; Date: October 26, 1945; Collection: Howard and Mabel Jonish; Courtesy of University of Alaska Anchorage, Consortium Library, Archives and Special Collections, Anchorage, Alaska (UAA-hmc-0428-series6-f7-3)



PAGE 19 Wreckage of the Lincoln Bar, Nome. Photographer: Jacobs; Date: November 17, 1945; Collection: Howard and Mabel Jonish; Courtesy of University of Alaska Anchorage, Consortium Library, Archives and Special Collections, Anchorage, Alaska (UAA-hmc-0428-series6-f7-9)



PAGE 21 Quonsut hut on the move, Nome. Photographer: U.S. Army Air Corps; Date: 1942; Collection: Lawrence E. Marx; Courtesy of University of Alaska Anchorage, Consortium Library, Archives and Special Collections, Anchorage, Alaska (UAA-hmc-0581-13)



PAGE 21 Moving a cabin out to the mines, Nome. Photographer: O.D. Goetze; Date: ca. 1900; Collection: O.D. Goetze; Courtesy of Anchorage Museum at Rasmuson Center - Library & Archives, Anchorage, Alaska (AMRC-b01-41-419)



PAGE 21 Building in Nome, Nome. Photographer: Unknown; Date: Unknown; Collection: Jacobs; Courtesy of Carrie M. McLain Memorial Museum, Nome, Alaska (Jacobs-601)



PAGE 21 Wein Arctic Tours bus parked in front of Wein Alaska Airlines Building, Nome. Photographer: Frank H. Whaley; Date: ca. 1963; Collection: Wein; Courtesy of Anchorage Museum at Rasmuson Center - Library & Archives, Anchorage, Alaska (AMRC-b85-27-1546)



PAGE 28 Steadman Avenue in mid winter, Nome. Photographer: Alfred G. Simmer; Date: 1907; Collection: Alfred G. Simmer; Courtesy of Alaska State Library-Historical Collection, Juneau, Alaska (ASL-P137-279)



PAGE 42 House on Lomen Avenue, Nome. Photographer: Unknown; Date: ca. 1906; Collection: Nome Buildings Vol. 1; Courtesy of Carrie M. McLain Memorial Museum, Nome, Alaska (NMP 82-59)



PAGE 45 Federal Building and US Post Office, Nome. Photographer: Jacobs; Date: 1934; Collection: Jacobs; Courtesy of Carrie M. McLain Memorial Museum, Nome, Alaska (Jacobs 351)



PAGE 47 Aerial view along Steadman Street, Nome, Alaska. Photographer: Unknown; Date: ca. 1948; Collection: Unknown; Courtesy of Carrie M. McLain Memorial Museum, Nome, Alaska



PAGE 52-53 Aerial view of Nome, Alaska. Photographer: Unknown; Date: ca. 1945; Collection: Unknown; Courtesy of Carrie M. McLain Memorial Museum, Nome, Alaska.



PAGE 57 BIA Reindeer House, Nome. Photographer: Unknown; Date: ca. 1937; Collection: Records of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Record Group 75; Courtesy of National Archives and Records Administration - Pacific Alaska Region, Anchorage, Alaska.



PAGE 57 BIA Reindeer House, Nome. Photographer: Unknown; Date: ca. 1940; Collection: Records of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Record Group 75; Courtesy of National Archives and Records Administration - Pacific Alaska Region, Anchorage, Alaska.



PAGE 57 BIA Reindeer House, Nome. Photographer: Unknown; Date: ca. 1960; Collection: Records of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Record Group 75; Courtesy of National Archives and Records Administration - Pacific Alaska Region, Anchorage, Alaska.



PAGE 67 BIA Reindeer House, Nome. Photographer: Unknown; Date: ca. 1956; Collection: Photographs of Schools, Hospitals, and Clinic, Box 24; Records of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Records Group 75; Courtesy of National Archives and Records Administration - Pacific Alaska Region, Anchorage, Alaska.

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- Alaska State Library, Historical Collections, Juneau, Alaska
- Anchorage Museum at Rasmuson Center, Library and Archives, Anchorage, Alaska
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Interviews and Oral Histories

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- Hahn, Bonnie – Owner of Cape Nome Roadhouse
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- Samuelson, Laura – Curator of Carrie M. McLain Memorial Museum
- Scott, Bob – Lifelong Nome Resident
- Walsh, John – Former Nome Resident
- West, Mike – Owner of Historic Property

Historic Preservation Resources

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 803
Washington, DC 20004
Phone: (202) 606-5803
Web: www.achp.gov

Alaska Office of History and Archeology
550 W. 7th Avenue, Suite 1310
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3565
Phone: (907) 269-8721
Web: www.dnr.state.ak.us/parks/oha

Alaska State Historic Preservation Office
Judith E. Bittner, State Historic Preservation Officer
550 W. 7th Avenue, Suite 1310
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3565
Phone: (907) 269-8721
Web: www.dnr.state.ak.us/parks/oha

National Alliance of Preservation Commissions
325 South Lumpkin Street
Founders Garden House
Athens, Georgia 30602
Phone: (706) 542-4731
Web: www.sed.uga.edu/psa/programs/napc/napc.htm

National Center for Preservation Technology and Training
645 University Parkway
Natchitoches, LA 71457
Phone: (318) 356-7444
Web: www.ncptt.nps.gov

National Park Service Cultural Programs
Web: www.nps.gov/history/whatwedo.htm

National Register of Historic Places
Web: www.nps.gov/history/nr/index.htm

National Trust for Historic Preservation
1785 Massachusetts Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20036-2117
Phone: (202) 588-6000
Web: www.preservationnation.org

Preserve America
Web: www.preserveamerica.gov

Preservation Action
National Building Museum
401 F Street, Room 324
Washington, DC 20001
Phone: (202) 637-7873
Web: www.preservationaction.org



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